THE ENEMIE to Vnthryftinesse:

Publishing, by Lawes, documents and Disciplines.

A Right Rule, for Reformation of Pride, and other Prodigall and Riotous disorders in a Common wealth:

For the worthines of Directions,

A Perfect Mirrour for all Maiestrates (especially) of CITIES.

And for sound Counsels and Admonitions,

A Carde or Compasse, for euery young Gentleman, honorablie and profitably to gouerne his Actions.

Partely, drawne out of the sage Gouernmet of the moste worthie Emperour, Alexander Seuerus: and (generallye) discouringe the vnsufferable Abuses now raigning in our happie English common wealth.

By George Whetstons Gent.

Malgre de Fortune.

Anno 1586.

The Printer to the Reader.

TO the intent, that the Variable humors of men (which delight as much in Chaynge, as they dyffer in opinions) may be latisfied, with the varietie of M. WHETSTONS Workes and writinge: I haue therefore, not (heire) thought it amisse, to set downe the seuerall tytles, of his seuerall workes already printed & compiled: Vidz.

1 The Enemie to Vnthryftinesse.

2 The Rocke of Regarde.

3 The honourable Reputation and Morall Vertues of a Souldier.

4 The Heptameron of Cyuill discourses.

5 The Tragicall Comedie of Promos and Cassandra.

6 The lyfe and death of M. G. Gascoyne.

7 The lyfe & death of the graue and honorable Maiestrate, Sir Nycholas Bacon, late L. keeper.

8 The lyfe, and death of the good L. Dyer.

9 The lyfe and death of the noble Earle of Sussex.

10 A Mirrour of true Honor, shewinge the lyfe, death, and Vertues of Francis, Earle of Bedforde.

Bookes redy to be printed.

11 A Panoplie of deuices.

12 The English Mirour.

13 The Image of Christian Iustice.

To the Right Honorable,

Woolstone Dixi, Lord MAIOR of the famous Cittie of London.

To the Right worshipfull, Sir Edward Osburne, Knight, and other the Aldermen his Assistantes: and to their learned Counseller, M. Seriant Fleetwood, Recorder of the same CITIE: his approoued good frende and Kinsman.

RIGHT HONORABLE, AND Worthie Maiestrates: hauing compiled this Booke, in the tyme of the Right worshipfull, Sir Edward Osburns Maioraltie: I dedicated the same with my ready seruice, to the worthie Maiestrats of this famous CITIE. To whom the execution of the Discipliues, contayned therein (cheefely) belongeth: I bowldly saye, if the Booke had beene as effectually regarded as it was curiously searched a number might haue made profit of my Trauell: but as olde wounds, requier deepe searchinge, euen so cankred Vices are not to be cured, but with seuere chastisments: This Booke discouereth many and so dangerous euilles: as euery man that hath care of his posterytie, is bound to be a suter for reformation: The contents therof I humbly submit vnto your grate Centures. The honor of Reformation belongeth vnto your wisdomes, the benefit to the publick weale: and the bare trauell (only) is due vnto me: Which as at the first, I dedicated the same, for the seruice of this CITIE euen so: in this second Correction, I patronize the Booke with your Honorable & right worshipfull protections: no more, but accomplishment of perfect desires, with acknowledgement of my dutie and seruice.

To your Honor and Worships,
George Whetstone.

To the Right worshipfull, the yong Gentlemen, of the Innes of Court.

MOst worthy & right Worshipfull Gentlemen (of the Innes of Court,) vnto you, as vnto one of the fairest Ornaments of this happy Realme, I commende the benefit of this small Treatise: And I am wel perswaded, in this Dedication, that I salute the best paret of all the yong Gentlemen of Englande: For what Course so-euer, they afterwardes followe, there are very fewe Gentlemen, but, either are, or haue ben of your Societie: It is very wel knowen, that these famous Houses are the first intertayners of your Lybertie.

For (notwithstanding) in your Gouernments, there are many good and peaceable Orders, yet your chiefest Discipline, is by the Purse. Those that are disposed, studdie the Lawes: who so liketh, without checke may follow Dalliance: And (certainly) the wanton Alectiues, which you (continuallie) behold, are not vnlike the Sirenes Inchauntmēts (were Poets fayning true;) you cōtinually walke by the Adamant Rockes, which drawe Siluer and Gold, as fast as Iron and Steele: you must be armed with more experience then the capacytie of yong yeares: or els, assure your selues, that Repentance will vnlose your Fetters: there is an olde Prouerb: Euil Company, corrupteth good maners: And (truely) I cannot see, how yong men, of the best education: should escape vnpoysoned, when vice is so conuersant with elder yeares.

O, how happie were it for your Posterytie, if, the Innes of the Court, were farre from Dicyng-houses, or Dicyng-houses, with their Originall, the Deuill. But, if you cannot be thus seperated, this little Booke, will (with regarde) guide you as safe, as the Clue of threede did Theseus, in the Laberinth. These Houses (outwardly) are of the substance of other Buildinges, but within are the Botches and Byles

of

of Abhomynation: they are lyke vnto deepe Pittes, couered with smothe Grasse, of which, men must be warned, or els, they can hardly auoide that their eye can not discouer:

You can haue, no fairer warnings then the steppes of your Companions falles, nor I, a more fortunate Rewarde for my trauaile, then to see you (worthie Gentlemen) to florish.

I beseeche you, to be aduised: It is a more precious matter, to shun a Mischiefe, by other mennes harmes, then to learne the goodnes of a thing, by the tolle therof. This sharp Discoueries, will make your fleering Deceiuers, my open Enemies: but I shalbe well strengthned, if my true Affection, breede in you a disdaine of their fellowshyp, & let them spurne their worste, they hurt them selues, that are angrie with good Admonition. I dedicate this Booke to the Magestrates, to whome, appertaineth the chastisment of euyll liuers, your worst enemies: I dedicat e to you (courteous Gentlemen) the Fruits of Noble Alexanders Counselles, as beseeming your worthinesse: I am but his Trouch-man, and your-truckie frend. And (truely) your wisdomes may make his graue Counselles more profitable then their seuere Discipline: for the Medicine is of more value, that preserueth Health, then that which cureth Sicknesse. The health of a Gentlemã, is Honour & actions of vertue: in which, Alexander (liberally) instructeth you: The Palsie, nay, death of a Gentlemã, is an vndoyng to the posterytie, which is hastened, by the sucking of Shifters: Of whome, I (constantly) hope, the good Maiestrates will ease you: I leaue further Ceremonies, in my Preface, least I seeme to iudge your Wisdomes, who are (for Learninge) a faire Beautie of the Common-wealth: my plaine Methode, in writing, showeth you a large hole to see Daye, which is ynough (with an Aduauntage) who retayne the vertue, to drayne Honie from a Weede: I ende to trouble you, at this time: but in no time, will leaue to be:

Your assured Frende:
George Whetstones.

Ad candidum Lectorem:
IN LAVDEM OPERIS.

SI te cura iuvat ſanctarum (Candide) Legum,
Aut inculpatę præcepta ſalubria vitę:
Hinc Exempla petas, Morum ſit norma tuorum
Hic Liber, et SPECVLO te contempleris in iſto,
Nam fugienda tibi quę ſint induſtrius Author
Quęqę ſequenda docet. Liber et labor illius omnis
Huc ſpectant: Aleas vites, nec Teſſera curę,
Nec Gula, nec Luxus, nec deſidis Otia vitę
Sint tibi: ſed Mores compti, caſtiſſima vita,
Et Labor, et rebus virtus exercita duris
Quę Patriam iuſtis defendere poſſit in Armis,
Hæc Summa eſt Operis, noſtriqę hîc meta laboris.

IOANNES BOTREVICVS.

¶ Faultes eſcaped, the Author being abſent.

Leafe.	Side.	Lyne.	Fault.	Correction.
1,	1,	16.	no cõmon wealth,	in no cõmon wealth.
7.	1.	9.	an Abſurditie,	no Abſurditie.
8.	2.	30	his own Daughter.	his owne Death.
9.	1.	13.	Gaius	Caius.
10.	1,	18.	Laborers	barbarous
15.	2.	19.	knights of ẏ land.	knightes of the Band.
21.	1.	2.	attempting	attempt.
21.	1	2.	innoia.	muoia
28.	1,	11.	forgetteth	geueth
26.	2.	22.	done	due

In the next Line following, for reuerences, reade, reſerues.

A Mirrour for Maiestrates of Cities.

AFTER THAT THE GOOD Emperour Alexander (surnamed) Seuerus, for his sharp correcting of vice, had restored the authoritie of the Senate, and had giuen breathe vnto their good Lawes: of whom the one late without reuerence, and the other were read and not regarded, through the inordinate liberties, and Priueleadges giuen vnto vice, by that vncleane Monster Heliogabalus, his Predecessor: Of the suddaine, Rome was brightned with the vertues of Iustice, as the world with the beames of the Sunne, after a horrible and darke tempest. But as there is no assurance of faire weather vntill the skie be cleare from clowdes, so (which well forsaw this good Emperour) there can neuer common wealthe grounded peace and prosperitie, where there are not Informers to finde out offenders, as well as Iudges to chasten offentes: In so much, in the prime of his Gouernment, accompanied with many graue Senators, as this good Emperour went vnto the Senat, in his passage hee might se the Citizens busilye

exercised in their seuerall trades: he incountred the Gentlemen in ciuil attire, and of euerie estate, found both himselfe and his Senators, saluted with much honour, reuerence and dutie.

And being in the Senate house, mounted in the iudiciall Throne, he sate long, and was little occupyed with crimynall causes.

The Senators, no little gloried, that (appealing vnto the iudgement of Alexander) they might lawfully boast, that Rome, which was late a Forest of wilde beastes, or to speake more properlie, a den of theeues, a Sanctuarie for Ruffens, a priueledge for Strumpets: a place in whiche no vice was forbidden, nor vertu cōmaunded, by their great wisdomes was brought into so good an order, as Alexanders eyes could beholde no open offenders, nor his eares heare of any secreat offences. In so much, as after his returne to the Pallace, they lauded the Emperour, with many acclamations of vertue, attributing this happy reformation vnto his pietie, temperaunce, and Iustice: thinking, that in giuing of hym this soueraignte, he would returne the praises vpon their paineful trauels, with the incouragement, that the magnanimious Cesar gaue vnto his souldiours, saying: that their bloods wrot honor in his forehead, and therfore how precious he esteemed his owne honor, so carefull he was of their welfare. But Alexander, although he were second to none, in the regarding and the rewarding of vertuous Maiestrates, yet least by thinking, that this outwarde reformation, had in the common wealth setled an inwarde amendement, and thereby they shoulde growe negligent,

gligent in the administratiõs of their waighty charges, he with a light regarde, attended his owne deserued prayses, to reaue them of the hope of particular commendations: yea, that they might wel know that all that glistered was not Golde, that alwaies the inwarde harte, was not discouered by the outward habit: he compared the best gouerned Common welth vnto a faire Aple, which being serched, hath a Coze, and that the worthy Senatozs, might perceaue their errours, and to amende what was omitted of their owne duties, and necessarie to establish a happye gouernment, in this graue and prudent Oration hee set downe the daungerous estate of the publique weale: and with al, a perfect remedie for the festred and inwarde maladies.

The first Oration of Alexander, the Emperour, to the Senators.

Most graue and reuerende Fathers, we not a litle reioyce, through the grace of the immortal Gods, and your great wisdomes, to beholde the famous Rome, but yesterday (in comparison) infamed with al abhominatiõs, by the priueleges of our beastly predecessor, who meriteth neither the name of Emperour, nor man, now in possession of her auncient vertues: And as we confesse, that by the deuine and heroyicall blessinges, the hoarsed voyce of Iustice is cleared: So wee like-wise hope, by the same graces, the remembraunce of vice and iniquitie shal be rooted out.

But good Senators, to discontinue a prosperous beginning, with a slouthfull imagination, that the Common weale is sounde, because no iniyronicies appeare, is the vnhappie meane, to blaste the fruites, of your well imployed wisdomes, and to inpresse an vncurable Canker in the bowels of Rome. The practisers of Chirurgerie very well know, that an olde and deepe festred sore, wil with easie working of the Surgion, outwardly seeme to heale, but if there bee not Corsiues applied, to eate out the roote thereof, this ouer hastie healing will breake foorth vnto a more greeuous maladie. Good Senators, vnto you al, it is wel knowen, that the publique weale hath of long time bin infected, with the most horrible vices, that euer humanitie practised: yea, so foule and vncleane, as ciuill creatures are forbod to recite them, by the sauadge inclination of that Monster HELIOGABALVS, yea so lothsome and sylthy were his abhominations, as the worser sort of people, (his fauoured seruantes) so detested his detestable and vile lyfe, as they hasted his ouer-long proroged death. Now that the immortall Gods haue inuested vs with the Imperiall Maiestie, small is the wonder, though there appeare a reformation in the good, when the verie Reprobate were glutted with wickednesse. But reuerend Fathers, this sweete alteration is no warrant to the Magistrate, to be slouthfull in his function, least in not surueyinge of the best, the best them-selues be corrupted, as Moaths consume the finest garmentes, where they be seeldome worne, and lesse ouer-looke: And although in the better sort, this inconuenience is to be feared, in the worser, this mischiefe is to be certenly expected: they wil vpon euerie temptation returne to their naughtines as a Dog

to

to his vomit, and therfore these daungerous infyrmities in a Common wealth, must be cured as the skilfull Surgion doth a festred sore. Their causes must bee searched and their nourishing humors purged, and then amendment followeth. The cause of this inordinate lust, this excessiue drunkennesse, this outragious prodigalitye, & to be short, this hel of iniquity among the Romanes, is euill education: of long time there hath bin no man ready to instruct them in vertues, nor willing to reprehend their vices, the nourishment of these euils are the Tauerns, Dicing places, and brothell houses, of whiche Rome hath great store, & they greater store of gueastes: so that to rid the publique weale of this dangerous infection, is fyrste and cheefelye to instruct the youth in good maners, and next to abate the number of these superfluous howses, or at the least, daylie to ouer-see their doings.

Thus in breefe, I haue declared some of the hydden euilles, harboured in the bowels of Rome, which to reforme your owne eyes must be as ready to synde them out, as your eares attentiue to heare euils reported: you must bee as well Informers of offenders, as Iudges of offences: for the desire of Iustice is to roote out iniquitie, and the office of Iustices to inquire after euil lyuers. And without al doubt, in this carefull proceedinge, in your visitations, you shall see sufficient example of sin, to occupie your Iudiciall places with correction. This vigilant care, will eternize your good beginnings with glorie, will establish prosperitye in the weale publique, will comforte the good, and bridle the wicked: yf not through the loue of vertue, yet for the chastninge of vice. Thus, you see it concerneth the inriching of

the common wealth, in the seruice where-of the bitternesse of death, should vnto you deeme pleasant: In particulers, it concerneth the prosperitie of your Children, Kinsfolke and Allies, for whose benefit you are borne to trauell: also it concerneth your owne honor, which you should holde more precious then lyfe: and therefore as your Soueraigne, we coniure you, and as fathers of the Common wealth beseeche you, that you wyll continue our good beginninge, with the execution of the Emperours directions: and so we end as we begun, the prosperitie of Rome, shal highly laude the gracious goodnes of the gods, & the greatnes of your wysdoms.

When the good Emperour, had in fewe woords ended this waightie Oration, (or more properly graue admonition) the fatherly Senators admiring the sound iudgemēt of Alexander beinge of tender yeares & vnexperienced, in pollices of gouernment, knew straight-waies, that there was a negligence in their administration of Iustice, which his minde (continually exercised for the benefyt of the publique weale) for saw, and to the profit therof, in this louing maner the same discouered.

To witnesse that they throughly conceiued the intent of his reposed woordes, by their owne prudent deeds, they forth-with wrought out the wholsome effects of his godly desire: and the better to search the core of vice & iniquitie hid in the intrailes of Rome, These good Maiestrats vsed this pollicie, in disguysed habits they entred the Tauerns, common tables, victuling houses, stewes & brothel-harbors, without controlemēt, they vie wed the behauiors of the people, that thei might the better vnderstand the ful of their abuses: & vpon diligent searche, what founde they &

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forsooth, Rome like a painted strumpet. The great boast ẏ they but lately made of her reformation, had no better assurance then this, a few of the good sette forth their good dispositions at large, & many of the wicked, for a time helde in their lewde inclinations: but counterfetes wil vnto kinde, Copper may holde print but not bide tutch with golde: euen so these hypocrits, as place and opportunitie serued, bewraied their beastly natures. Among these franions, Cosonage was esteemed lawful marchandise, & dicinge, faire pastime: lechery was held no sin, nor chastity, vertu: ruffens were honored, & the gods dispised: the mouth of vertu was locked, & vice spake through a trumpet. To be short, among them was no law but disorder, nor any thing publique but abhomination: neither possibli might it be otherwise: for by ẏ authority of Heliogabalus, ruffens, bawdes & suche other brothel birds, were made senators, yea, ẏ basest persons were maried to noble wemẽ, & they ẏ could set abroche most villanies, bare the greatest swayes: & wher such liberty is giuen to offend, sin is so sweete to ẏ flesh, ẏ there wil appeere no difference betweene men & beasts, saue ẏ men do exceede beasts in beastlines: and in this accordeth deuine Plato, who saith, ẏ those citties, in which ther are no seuere lawes to correct sin, ar rather forrests of monsters then places habitable for men, & wher as ther was this corruption in nature, there could be no alteratiõ hoped for but by discipline, which the sequel well proueth.

The change of the gouernment, from a most vile vnto a most vertuous Emperour, purged simply, ẏ corruptiõ of ẏ people, for althogh ẏ exercise of naughtinesse, were not so opẽ as before, yet ẏ euil disposed

knew

knew where to stawle companions euen in the fore named Hell houses, and which was most to bee lamented, among the scum of the Cittie, I meane Ruffians, Bawdes, Brokers, Cheters, Shifters and others: in these fylthie places, worthye Gentlemen and substantiall Cittezens were daylye founde, the one through vnthriftinesse to wast their patrimonie, the other by couetousenesse to purchase the Deuill and all.

When the graue Senatours, had entred into the depth of these foule vlcers of the Publique weale, they founde that Dice, Drunkennesse and Harlots, had consumed the wealth of a great number of ancient Gentlemen, whose Purses were in the possession of vile persons, and their Landes at morgage with the Marchants, and how both the one and the other, were confederate to spoyle these Gallantes. They truly certifyed the Emperour, the dangerous estate of the Common wealth, how that by the corruption of these houses, the Gentlemen had made this exchaunge with vile persons: they were attyred with the Gentlemens brauerie, and the Gentlemen disgraced with their beastly maners: And so much the case was the more to be pitied, for that the remedie was to be doubted: for al be it their infections grew by the fylthie conuersation with ruffens, Bawdes, and suche braue baggages, whiche was harde to be cured, that which should comforte them in well dwinge, I meane their Landes, were in the possession of the Marchantes, who of the gaine of their bargen will wage freendes to countenaunce their deceitfull dealinges, and then let them barke

their

their worſt, their aduerſaries will byte them with their owne teeth. Thus, worſe Gentlemen, they are ſure to impaire their liuinges: how-be-it (perhaps) they amend their liues.

When the good Emperour had attentiuely herd this (lamentable) report, hee forth-with made this ſhort anſwer.

Graue Fathers, you haue certifyed vs no more, then by reaſon we ſenſibly foreſaw: it is therefore now conuenient, that we by ſeueritie pluck vp the roots of wickedneſſe, which by ſufferaunce are growen to mightye bodies of ſin. Therfore our pleaſure is, that by expreſſe Commaundement, the Cittizins of Rome be-warned to appeare (to morrowe) be-fore vs, in the Theater of Rome, where they ſhall openly know their faultes: and by the graces of the immortall Gods, and counſell of our graue Senate, wee ſhall ſet downe remedies for this daungerous miſchiefe.

This repoſed ſpeache of the Emperour, promyſed good ſucceſſe to his graue determinations: in ſo muche, as the Senators ſettled in this hope, made (forthwith) Proclamation of the Emperours Commaundement.

And at the appointed time, the grauer ſort of the Cittizins, with a multitude of the Communaltie being aſſembled, the Emperour and a choſen company of Senators, with a ſterne countenaunce paſſed by the people, and mounted in the Chayre of Maieſtie, as one diſtempered with a great paſſion, with an angrie Countenaunce and a ſtill tongue, hee ſetled his eyes vpon the Cittizins: And not-with-ſtanding they ſaluted hym with many dutifull acclama-

tions: as, Liue long, O noble Emperour, the chosen of the Goddes, the Glory of the world, the Soueraigne of Kynges, and prosperytie of Roome: yet he seemed neuer a whytte the more affable, as wyllynge they should knowe that his wisdome had searched their corrupt consciences, & (therfore) little regarded their dntiful gratulations: In the end, when the regarde of his displeased Countinaunce, had made them scilent with feare, or (rather) halfe dead with sorow, he quickened them agayne, with this sharpe Reprehension: as followeth.

Alexanders Oration, to the Cittizyns of Roome.

IF we knewe, by what proper name to call you, by that name we would wyll you to giue attention, to the words we purpose to declare: If we shuld greet you with the reuerence due vnto Priests, wee should highly offende the Goddes and delude men: for, in you there is no Relygion to serue the Gods, nor Charytie to lyue Neighbourly among men. If we shuld salute you, as Senators, your own consciences wold witnesse that we mocked you: for the good Senators, trauell for the benefite of the Publique-weale, and you (only) labour for priuate lucre. It were ridiculous to call you Gentlemen: for they, by their magnanimous Vertues, inlarge the boundes of the Empyre, and you, thoughe you haue craft to dispossesse Gentlemen of their lands, yet you lacke vallour to keepe the enemie from the sackyng of your Cytties. What? wouldeyou that wee should call you, as the auncient Cittizyns were woont to be

to be called, good people of Roome? Beleeue me, this is no proper Title for you: for they and you differ in conditions, as good doth from bad. Those Cittizyns or good people of Roome, by their Vertues, crowned Roome with the Honour of a Cittie, and more, with this Title: **The Head of the Worlde**: For, as diuine PLATO saith: **it is not sumptuous Buildynges, that giueth name of a Cittie, but the Ciuilytie and worthinesse of the Cittyzyns**: And on the contrary-parte, you pollute Roome with so many abhominations, as where in times past, she hath ben called the head of the world, she may now be as aptly called: **the tayle of iniquitie**: If none of all these titles belong vnto you: what name shuld we then giue you? you be of Rome: lyue in Roome, and haue your sustenance from Rome: all this hath Moathes in cloath, Canker-rust in Iron, & Caterpillers in fruict: Then, **you Moathes, Canker-rust and Caterpillers of Roome**: giue eare vnto my words, which showe you a more assured benefite then your own trauelles: The large Priuiledges of Abuses, which you (of long tyme) haue inioyed, haue (by sufferance made a custom of sin: & therfore (in charytie (we are (first) bound, to admonish you with good cõsell: if that work no amẽdmẽt, thẽ (of necessitie) we must chasten you with the Rod of Iustice: But, admit this lybertie were without checke, you would be the cõfusion of your own-selues: you haue experience of the Vermins to whome, wee (rightly) compared you: the Moathe, consumeth the Cloath, and (in tyme) for lacke of sustenaunce, starueth it selfe. The lyke doth the Caterpyller amonge Fruict, and with continuance, the Canker-rust in Iron. And you, that deuoure the wealth of the CITTIE, dwell vppon the Possessions of

the Gentlemen, and oppreſſe the multitude with bondage: what gayne you by this? By Crueltie, you purchaſe hatred of your Neighbours, and the Ambitious, wyll enuie your aboundance of wealth: and then, this followeth: If they can not be ſtrengthned with forein power, your familiars, wyll invade you with ciuil diſcention: For, among thoſe that haue liued prodigally, this rule is obſerued: whē their Purſes are emptie, their heads are occupied with a thouſand miſchiefes, to compaſſe a newe ſupply: And (which is moſt to be feared,) they be not ſo perrillous cunnyng in their practiſes, as they are Deuillyſh reſolute in their Executions: If they ſell you their landes, for money to ſpend riotouſly, whē that help is paſt, they wyl cut off your heads, fyre your Houſes, and ſacke this famous Cittie, to ſuſteine their laſciuious humoures: For (without ſpeciall grace) in prowd minds, want can not ſuppreſſe deſire to ſpend: You haue reade the experience in the Hiſtorie of vnthriftie CATTILINE and his Confederats, how he murdered the worthieſt Cittezins, without mercie, made ſpoyle of their Gooddes without lawe, and beſeaged Roome with a ſhrewde daunger: you are lyke to be partakers of their Afflictions, vnleſſe you bee more moderate in gayning of Gentlemens liuyngs, and they leſſe riotous in ſpendynge of your money. When PHILIP Kyng of MACEDONS, made warre vppon the PERSIANS, hauing intelligence, that they abounded in all maner of delicate vyandes, ſumptuous Garments and waſtful expences: he foorth with retyred his Army, and ſaid: it was needeleſſe too make warre vpon thoſe, that within a while, would cut one anothers throates. And truely, though PHILLIP his anſwere

Pryde and want, cauſe of ſedition.

his answere were short, his iudgement was waightie: for as mightie Ryuers wyll soone run drie, when their noorishyng Sprygs are turned another way: so wealthy Cities, can not, but be subuerted, when euery man doth cleane contrary to his function. Among the Philosophers, MAN is called, MICROCOSMOS, or a little worlde: for that in him is figured, a Modell of the glorie therof. If he resemble the whole worlde, it were an absurditie too make him a Figure of a wel-gouerned Cõmon-wealth: a man consisteth of diuers members, as head, body, Armes, legges. &c. So doth a good Common-wealth, of diuers estates: as of a Kyng as Supreame-head and Cõmaũder: of godly Prelates, as the heart and nooryshers of deuine vertues: of graue Iudges, Maiestrates and Counsellers, as the body and strength of Common prosperytie: of worthy Gentlemen, as the Armes, hands aud executioners of the Maiestrates graue pollycies: of aduentrous Marchauntes, as the legges and trauaylers into forreigne countreyes, for their owne Countteyes cõmodytie: of Plowmen, and inferiour people, as the feete, which must run at the cõmaundement of euery other member. I say, where all these estates, dutifully, doo their Offices: where the Prince doth (iustly) commaunde: the Maiestrates (aduisedly) direct: and inferiour Subiectes (faythfully) obey: there, where this Concorde is, peace and prosperytie, flooryssheth in their Citties, and feare, pineth the enuie of their borderyng enemies. On the contrary parte, where the head is crowned with a Pantoffe, as the Subiect of the vnconstant multitude: where the passages of the heart, whiche is the Organe of the Soule, are fixed with the continuall exercise of sinne, (the Figure that

the Prelates ſownde Doctrine, are but wordes of warnyng, and no cauſes of amendment: Where the breſt and bodie lyes naked to euery peryl, I meane, the good Maieſtrates, are neither reuerenced, feared, nor obayed: Where the handes are bownde to the knees, in token, that the Gentlemen are thrawle to the Marchantes:

Where, on the knees is faſtened a Cap and a feather, and about the legges, a Swoord and a Target buckled, in ſigne, that the Cittizyns deſire the honour they can not gouerne, and leaue their trauayles, whiche woulde inritch the Common-wealth: And where the feete, which ſhould trudge for euery neceſſary, ſhould be fettred, in a payre of Stockes: as witneſſe of the poore Laborers bondage and oppreſſion, who, for their neceſſarie trauelles, ought too bee cheeriſed. I ſay: as a man thus deformed, buckled and bownd on a heape, would ſoone peryſh, for want of ſuſtenance: euen-ſo, a Common-wealth, thus confuſed, would ſoone be confownded, for lacke of good Order. What Prince, that is Head and Soueraigne, of ſuch a ſauadge and brute people? that wyll not (rather) wyſh, a Royall Tombe, then a Princely Pallace? for, in the one, he is priuyleaged againſt the outrage of enemies, & in the other, he is not ſafe from the Treaſons of his own Subiects. And therfore, you Vipers, which deſtroy one another, if our louyng perſwaſions, may not alter your lewde diſpoſitions: take the aduauntage of tyme & my nakednes, giue me an vntimely death, rather thē a diſhonorable raign: for (truely) I had rather die, while the walles of Roome doe ſtande, then liue to ſee her ſumptuous Buildynges on fite, whoſe ruine is at hand, vnleſſe, out of hand, you amend your corrupt cōſciences, & the multitude, their naughtie maners.

¶ At

AT these wordes, (with teares in their eyes) as pleadges of sorowful heartes: the people shouted forth with a lowde crye, their dutifull Affections saying: O noble ALEXANDER, let the Torture of ten dearthes, be too easie a payne, for the man, whiche but ymagyneth thy Death: Lyue: and lyue long: O most noble Emperour, the lyse of vs all, and the light of the Romaynes glorye.

Here Sorow stopped their mouthes: but their dismayed countenaunces, gaue full knowledge of their inwarde Repentance: so that the Emperour, both in wordes, lookes and gesture, (more mildely) continued his Oration: as followeth.

Continuance of Alexander

his Oration, to the Cittizyns.

YOV wish him the vengeance of ten deaths, that should, but imagine our death: And (certainly) Conscience perswadeth vs, your tonges do truely publysh the consents of your heartes: but small is the difference, when death and desolation is the ende, whyther you lay violent hands vpon vs, or murder vs with your horryble vices. The body that is in a Consumption, bringeth the head to the graue: euen so, the ruine of the kingdom, endeth the raign of the king: he whose head groweth out of his shyn, whose eyes are set in his knees, whose feete are ioyned to his shoulders, & his other members (semblably) disordred: wold you not (rather) take him for a Moster then a man? yea verely, and (doubtles) such a creature wold perysh by his deformytie, ware he not by others fostered for a wonder: euen so this preposterous shape in a Common-wealth, when

The ouerthrowe of a Kinge dome, endeth the raigne of the Kinge.

euery eſtate liueth out of order, wyl ſoone come to con fuſion, & people of the beſt fortune, but liue as the bōd-men of their enemies.

The firſt Erector of the Romayn walles, was ROMVLVS, yet Roome was nothyng ſo much bound vnto him, for the envyronyng of her fayre buildynges, with ſtrong Bulwarkes, as in appointyng offices, orders and lawes among the people, to gouerne them in peace and proſperytie: This Romulus, (that Roome might proſper,) haſtened the death of his Brother REMVS, an Act (ſimply) conſidered by Nature, very impious, and the vengeance of deteſtable cruelte: but the ſeditious diſpoſition of Remus well pōdred, neceſſytie approoued the ſeuerytie of ROMVLVS, to be perfect Iuſtice. The loue we owe to our Parents, ought to be very reuerent and great, becauſe thei gaue vs lyfe: to our brethren, naturall, becauſe of preuytie in blood: to our frends, affectionat, becauſe vertue or benefit is þ foundation: But the loue we owe vnto our Countrey, cōmaundeth vs to breake all theſe bandes of affection, in preſentyng the deereſt frends, offending againſt the Weale-publique: yea, in the ſeruice therof, to make it appeare, that the prodigall ſpoylles of our liues, giueth contempt vnto Death: That Examples of Kynges and Capital Maieſtrates, in this duetie, may be Samplers of Vertue vnto the inferiour Subiectes of Roome, I giue you to vnderſtād, how Kyng LYCVRGVS went into (voluntary) exile, that his good Lawes, might haue long continuance among the Lacedemonians. Kyng CODRVS (wilfully) ran vpon his owne Daughter, (only) vpon a Propheſie, that the ſame ſhould deliuer his Countrey from inuaſion. AVCVRVS, Kyng

Men ar more bound to the common-wealth then to Parentes.

MYDAS Son of PHRIGIA, hauing knowledge that the yre of the Goddes, would not be pacified, vntil a liuing mã leapt into a great gaping gulph of the earth which ouerthrew many houses, and dyd much hurt in the Countrey: The Kyngs Sonne, ANCVRVS, I say, least some should preuent him, (hastely) kyssed the King his father, his wife and frends, and (couragiously) leaped into this Gulph. What need we further search then the Monumentes of Noble Romaynes: CVRTIVS, dyd the like valiant deed of Anxurus. MVTIVS SCEVOLE, in disguised Habyte, entred (alone) the Hetruryan Camp, to slay their kyng, who (daungerously) assaulted Rome. GAIVS MARIVS, to ouercome the fierce Cymbrians, sacrificed his deerely beloued Daughter CALPHVRNIA: Death was the certaine ende of al these enterpises: but these Noble personages, were wondrous vncertaine, whether their Deathes should ydde their Countreyes from daungers, or no: But Louers of their Countreyes prosperitie, maketh neither doubts nor delayes, where great perill asketh present succour: But, you will (peraduenture) saye, that you are redy to spende your hyues, your landes and Goods, to withstande forreigne Hostilytie, or Domesticall ennemies: If you so say, and doo so, Dutie challengeth al this, and wisdome wylleth a deepe forsight: This a worke of more thank to preserue health, then to cure Sickenesse, for, payn and griefe (onely) commendeth Medicine; euen so, effusion of innocent bloode, burnyng of Cyties, and rauishment of Virgins, are the studies of most glorious conquestes: And surely, he that will giue cause of sedition, though hee after dooth his vttermost to suppresse the

ſame, is lyke vnto hym that doth (wilfully) ſurfet, that Phiſicke may heale hym: Your exceſſiue Coueitouſneſſe, is example of the lyke miſchiefe: yea, this double daunger dependeth thereon: By the ſame, you vndoe the Gentlemen, whiche are the Beautie of Rome, and the ſtrength of the Empyre: For (al-be-it) Iawe-leſſe Wolues wyll ſcarre Sheepe, yet maymed men, incourage Cowardes. Your aboundaunce, can not defende Forreigne Inuaſion, when the Gentlemens hartes are nipped with want: nay, it is to be feared, that Enuie and Neceſſytie, will make them to ioyne with the Enemie, to be reuenged of your Cruelties, or too be relieued of your ſuperfluyties.

HEREWITH, the Multitude cried out, alowde: Accurſed be he, and vnworthie the name of a Citizyn of Rome, that, by vnſatiable Coueitouſnes and Vſurie, ſeeketh this publique deſolution: whatſoeuer is thus (vnlawfully) gotten, ſhalbe reſtored backe: Hereafter, ſuch vnprofitable members, ſhal be bridled: Liue vertuous Emperour, and what lack ye finde in vs, refourme it, and we wyll obey you: and he that doth reſiſt, let him be ſlaine, and buried in Tyber: Your vertue hath reſtored vs to lyfe, that weare dead: vnto Lybertie, that were in thraldom: vnto Honour, that were diſhonoured. In Gouernaunce, you be our Father, whome we well reuerence: by free election, our Emperour, whom we wil obay: & in wiſdome our ſoundeſt Judge, whoſe commaũdemẽts & coũſels, we wil execute, as generall Lawes. ¶ Hereat, the Emperour relented, and with mnch paine, retayned the teares of his eyes, and (in the ende) comforted thẽ, wͭ this Concluſion.

¶ The

The Conclusion of Alexanders Oration, to the Cittizyns

I Am right glad, that your Proteſtation declareth, that you yet hold ſome portion of Vertue: which giueth vs hope, that the renown of this Noble Realme, begunne by Romulus, ſhall not ende in you: And if you be conſtant in this affection, we truſt, right ſhortly, to make the Fame therof equall in eſtimation, with the Raignes of any of our Progenitours. And now, I haue fownd agayne your old name wherby I wyll call you.

Ye Children and Succeſſours of the vertueus Romaynes: I ſay, you victorious people, braunches of Romulus, ſubduers of Realmes, patternes of vertue, and proweſſe to all the world, mittigate your couetous appetites, abandon exceſſiue Vſurie, exceede not the boundes of your popular ſtate, be charitable, and merciſull vnto yout owne Countrey-men, where their neceſſitie may be relieued with your abundance: Be you aſhamed, that labourers, and rude people, ſhould condemne you of crueltie, for deſtroying of your Gentlemen (the chiefe ornament, and defence of this noble Cittie.) Remember, that if the ſtate of Senators do decaye, the moſt vertuous of the Gentlemen are elected in their places: So you, that ſhall equall them in vertue (for your ſubſtance onely cannot make you gentle) ſhall be aduaunced vnto the ſtate of Gentlemen, according to your demerits.

Nowe haue we nomore to say vnto you, but applye your selues to the auncient and most laudable orders, as we shal indeuour our selues, by example & diligence, to bring this Citie againe vnto perfection.

WHen the good Emperor had thus ended his Oration, he caused diuers of the grauest Citizyns, to attend hym at his Pallace, where he cōmanded, that by secrete inquirie, they should learne how many Cittyzyns, by Vsurie, or other corrupte bargaynyng, had absolute possession, or Morguage of the Gentlemens Landes: and to certifye, (bothe) the names of the Vserers, and the Gentlemen so distressed. Vppon whose certificate, he dealed with the Creditors of the Gentlemē, bestowyng a great portion of money out of his owne Treasurie, towardes a generall agreement: as in the ende, he concluded, that the Creditors, should receiue the residue of their Debtes, by a yearely pention oute of the Gentlemens Landes; By whiche Newes, their Posterytie might recouer, what their vnchristinesse had wasted. The Noble Emperour, hauynge brought to passe this hye benefite, for the Gentlemen of Rome, with the possession therof: in this louyng Oration, he instructed them in the Dueties of Gentlemen, and (mildely) reprehended the Dishonours of their Reputation.

The

The Emperour Alexander his Oration, to the Gentlemen of Rome.

GEntlemen of Rome, by the name of Gentlemen I salute you, as Hereditorie Title of your Aunce stours vertues, which I hope will alwayes remayne in your hearts: How-be-it, too excessiue prodigalitie, hath much wasted your liuings, and impayred your credit. But with the blame of your lasietousnes, I am bound (by the woorking of pitie) to shew the cause thereof: Which (although it bee no excuse in Iustice) yet is iustly moueth commiseration. The examples of our predecessors wickednesse, is more liuelye expressed in your woorkes, then may be shewen by my wordes, and I hope, his worthie confusion, will be cause of your speedy amendment. Yet, I hold it not amisse, to laie before your eyes, the monstrous euilles, which you haue learned of your late Emperour Heliogabalus: that, comparing his wretched ende, with his wicked raigne, feare may reforme, what our louing affection wilbeth to be amended in you.

This vessel of abhominatiō, so exceeded in pride, that frō top to toe, he was attired in cloth of golde, pearle, & pretious stones, & neuer wore any garment more then once, from his bed chamber, vnto the place where he mounted vnto his Coch, the walles were decked with tapestrie full of greate pearles, and pretious stones. The waie as he went, was strewed with golde and siluer, as one disdayning to treade vpon earth lyke other men.

Vyces of Heliogabalus

His Charyot was sometyme drawen with tame Lions, sometimes with Elephantes, and sometimes with marueilous faire Women. The Ringes which he drewe off his fingers, hee neuer put on againe. The vessels of golde and siluer, wherein he was serued, was euermore the fees of his seruitors. Suche huge prodigalitie was ioined with his incomparable pride. His gluttonie, & voluptuousnes was so great, as neere the Sea, his whole housholde was fed with most daintie fowles: and beeing farre within lande, they were all serued with all maner of fishes, by Poste brought alyue from the Sea: Sometime he had for a generall seruice, pasties of Peacockes toonges, otherwhyle Partridges egges, the heades of Popiniayes, Fesauntes, and the most daintiest Byrdes; Neither was this superfluitie alone vpon the Tables in his owne Pallace, but in selfe same manner, his Lyons, Gray-hounds, and other Dogs of pleasure were fed. He so much esteemed of thinges that were deare and rare, that hearing there was but one Phœnix in the worlde, hee offered twoo thowsand Markes to haue it to hys Dinner.

His lecherie was so vnsatiable, and withal so vnclean, as common ciuilitie forbiddeth the report.

His Pusalanimitie was such, as he studied how to become a woman, and of moste notorious Strumpets, and Bawdes, hee erected a Senate, and in a Capitoll, for the nonce, hee made vnto them manie Orations, and called them his Companions, and fellowe Souldiers.

That vice might haue no staye, nor vertue anie passage,

sage, he gaue free Charters to all men to vse all manner of villanie. And Sabinus, Vlpianus, and other learned and reuerent Iudges hee banished from the administration of Iustice.

He cruelly put to death many worthie personages, & amongst the people many times let loose Lions, Beares, and other cruell Beastes. In fine, when his monstrous pryde, prodigallitie, and lecherie, had consumed all his own treasure, necessitie, & a naughtie disposition, made him to sell the offices of Iustice. But his owne familiar Seruantes and Souldiers, wearie of his abhominations, slew him: & drawing his horrible Carren with hooks through the Cittie, they tyed him to a stone of greate waight, and threw him into Tyber, to the end so vile a bodie should neuer be buried: Yet, your owne eies are Iudges that I say the truth. His death and funerals was as vile and filthie, as, what I haue saide of his life, was sumptuous and rich.

I haue laide the miserie of his death before your eyes, that you should expell the vices of his life forth of your harts. It was the due of his beastlines, and will be the reward of your insolent liuing without amendment.

You are yet yong, & by prowesse may recouer more then you haue by prodigalitie wasted: A vertuous end repaireth the dishonors of a vicious life: But shame lyueth, when lewd men are dead. A prodigall and voluptuous humor, I know is hardly purged, bicause the norishments are many and sweete. But when I consider, that you are Gentlemen, I straightwaies hope, that you will easily e subdue these affections. There is nothyng more pretious to man then life, nor nothing more fearfull then death.

Yet

Yet the noble Romaine Gentlemen your auncestors, in actions of honour, preferred the last before the first. If you be heires of their vertues, Vsurers cannot purchase that patrimonie: And therefore, great is our hope, that you will bridle meane affections, when they contemned the greatest. ROMVLVS with a weake strength, and inuincible courage, first buylded this famous Citie, and of his name hee is called to this daye Roome. Numa Pompilius that succeeded him, both inlarged the bounds, and strengthened her, with manie good lawes and orders: And in processe of time, the wisdome of the Magistrates, and valiancie of her Gentlemen, made Rome, The Soueraigne of Cities, the Beautie of the earth, and Empresse of the whole world. And so to this daye had remained, had not the horrible vices of her Emperors Nero, Caligula, Domitian, Comodus, and Heliogabalus, eclipsed her glorie, and polluted her people with abhominations: But vertue is able to perfect more then vice hath deformed. We beseech the Gods, that on our part there may bee no default, as wee earnestly desire reformation in you: And then (no doubt) Rome shall shortlye haue her auncient honour, and you the reputation of Romulus heires.

Braue apparell fyte for lage players

This badge of pryde, Bratterie in apparell, is necessarie for base persons, that publiquely in open Theaters, presente the personages of Emperoures, Kinges, Dukes, and such Heroycall Estates: For that they haue no other meane to perfourme their action. But the magnanimous Gentleman, carrieth honor in his cõtinance, and not countenance in his Garments.

CICERO discouered the Haughtinesse of Cesar in his fore-heade.

Astiages

ASTIAGES, saw a Kyngly minde in CYRVS, although, hee were armed with a Sheepehooke: man maketh the Habyt, and not Habyt a man.

Drunkenneſſe and Glotonie, are fowle maymes too Honour, and the greateſt deformytie in a Gentleman: Call Alexander, the great, to witneſſe, who, after hee had conquered (almoſte) all the whole Worlde, with the Swoord, conquered hym-ſelfe with a Wine-potte: So that, it is a queſtion, whither he receiued more Honour, in ouercommyng the mighty Darius, of Perſia, or Diſhonor, by beyng ſubdued, by the Perſians Vices: If I were a Iudge, Alexander, ſhould find a ſeueare Iudgement: for, by his valiancie, he did but conquer his ennemies, and in his drunkenneſſe, he ſlew his frendes, and haſtened his owne death.

Dronkennes and glotney, greatly diſgraceth a gentleman.

Prodigalytie, is ſo ſharpe a vengeance, as there needeth no Lawe to chaſtiſe the Prodigall man, he doth ſo ſeuerely puniſh him-ſelfe. Epicharidus, the Athenian, in ſixe Dayes conſumed his Patrimonie, and al his lyfe after, liued a Begger.

The vengeance of Prodigalitie

Paſicitus, kyng of Cyprus, firſt (prodigallie) ſpent his Treaſure, afterwards, ſould his Realme, and (laſtly) died (miſerablie) in the Cittie of Amathuntus,

The prodigall Cleops, Kyng of Egypte, was driuen vnto ſuch neceſſitie, as he was faine to liue of the diſhoneſt vſe of his Daughters bodie.

If prodigalitie bring Kings to this exigent, who haue manie ſupplies, it ſpeedilye ruineth the richeſt Subiect: yea, (which is worſt) their recouerie is as vncertaine, as their vndooing is certaine: For by colour of their Reuennewes, they runne in debt the triple value of theyr

Landes. You Gentlemen of Rome, knowe this better by experience, then by my information, you feele the ſmart of prodigalitie: by ryot you were dryuen to morgage your Lands, and had loſt the ſame, and your ſelues, had not our liberalitie redeemed both; our louing care to preuent, that followeth after prodigalitie, whiche is this perillous daunger:

Men, beyng (by prodigalytie) Enemies of their owne and poſteryties proſpetytie: by want and Neceſſytie, become Enemies of their Countreyes peace and welfare, I ſaie, feare of this miſchiefe, and loue of your weldoynge, hath repurchaſed your Landes: receyue of vs, the Poſſeſſion therof, as a Cogniſance of our loue, and delyte that you maye flooryſh: Keepe your Honour with your Landes, leaſt our ſeuere diſpleaſure, be heaped vpon your vndoynges: Lette vertuous Pollycies and Documents be your ſtuddie: ſee that your exerciſe, bee Feates of Chiualrye: vſe your handes, to the managynge of Armes, and not your Fyngers to the trippynge of Dice, a Paſtyme, to villanous, that (notwithſtandinge) the loſſe be doubtfull, the diſhonour is certaine.

The diſhonour of Dicing.

GOBILON, the Athenian, beyng ſent Ambaſſadour, to make League with the Corrynthians, who, findyng the Gouernours of Corrynth, playinge at the Dice, departed without diſpatch of his buſines: ſaying, **He would not ſtaine the Glorye of the** Spartianes, **in makyng League with Diters.** The Kyng of the Perſians, ſent goulden Dice to kynge Demetrius, for a reproache of his Lightneſſe. Cicero, in the Senatehouſe, put Anthonius to ſcilence, in ſayinge, he was a Dicer: And (truely) ſo infamous a paſtime, neither beſeemeth

beſeemeth the Grauitie of the Magiſtrate, nor Honor of a Gentleman, for that the gaine, is loaden with diſhoneſt practiſes, and the loſſe, with vnquiet paſſions.

Learn by the Cõtinencie of the mightie Alexãder, & the noble Romain Scipio, to ſubdue carnal affections: the one, hauyng (by fortune of warre, the poſſeſſion of kyng Darius Wyfe, the moſte beautifull Ladie of all ASIA, he neither ſuffred him-ſelfe, to bee conquered by her beautie, nor the Queene to bee diſhonoured by his victorie. The other, hauyng lyke Aduauntage of the Paragon of Spayne, with the ſemblable vertue, vanquiſhed his Affections. worthye examPls of continencie

On the cõtrarie part, know ye, that Rome (of late) hath had more Emperours brought vnto the Sepulture, by Lecherie, then in many hundred yeares before, by the Launce. Gentlemen, my Kinſmen and Companions. I admoniſh you from naughtineſſe, by the falles of Emperours, kynges, and Heroycall Eſtates: that you maye knowe, in the puniſhment of vice, the Goddes, neither feare nor ſpare, the mightieſt of men. On the contrarie parte: I counſell you to goodneſſe, by the Counſell of our dignitie, aſſuring you, by the exerciſe of Vertue, meaner then Gentlemen, become Emperours of Kingdomes. Wee haue no more to ſaye: but that the Goddes impreſſe in your hartes, the counſell we haue blowen into your eares, and that your Emperour Alexander, maye beholde Rome, Rome agayne: And you (Gentlemen of Rome) worthye the reputation of your Noble Auncеſtors.

VVhen the good Emperor, had ended his Oration: the Gentlemen, ouercome with the Princely fauour and affeation of Alexander, as (also) wounded, with the knowledge of their former lasciuiousnesse, discouered a great dismaye of Spirite: In the ende, with abased Countenaunces, vppon their knæs, they humbly acknowledged his gratious benefits: confessed their owne vnworthynesse, and faithfullie promised, to obay his fatherly Counsailes. The good Emperour, then, demaunded, yf they would be contented, that their Debts shuld be paide by yearely pentions out of their Landes, and if they woulde (sparingely) liue, accordyng vnto the proportion of the rest? They al aunswerd, with one voyce: Yea (noble Emperor) els were we accursed.

¶ The prudent Alexander, hauing by these graue Orations, sounded the inclynations, of the three Estates of Rome, vz. The Senators: The Gentlemen, and the Citizyns: forsoth not ỹ aduantage of the peoples good dispositions, but whyle the Vertue of his wise Counselles was worckyng in their hartes, he, with the Aduice of his graue Senators, deuised many good Lawes, for the abandonyng and banishment of Vices forth of the Citie: assuryng himselfe, that where Discipline was wanting, the sowndest counsell, purged not corrupt maners: so that, to the loue which his Affabylitie had wonne, he ioyned dread, through seuere executiõs, of these profitable lawes.

¶ Lawes

Lawes, Pains, and

Penalties, set downe by Alexander Seuerus, to punish Offenders against the Weale-publique.

In primis for that the Tauarnes, Dicing-houses, & the Stewes, were ỹ Nurses of all vices, and the Sanctuaries of vicious persons, he suppressed all such, as were of euyll fame: saying: That, if the Owners could not liue, but vpon the vndoynge of others, it were reason, they should starue, by the necessytie of their idle byngyng vp. Tauernes stewes and dicing houses

¶Item: He cõmaũded, that in the Tauarns, there should be no other, thẽ open Bowthes, ỹ the Censors, might see the behauiors & cõditions of ỹ people that haunted them. Open bothes in Tauernes.

¶Item: He cõmaunded, that no Gentleman, Romayne, should resorte to any of these Houses, vppon paine, to lose the name of a Gentleman. Gentlemen, for bidden, Tauernes

¶Item: He cõmaunded, that no Senator, should haue more then fower Dishes at his Dinner: nor Gentleman, or Cittyzyn, more then three: And that, the Cõmon people, should feed (onely) of one Dish, of fish or flesh: saying, that Glotonie and Drunkenesse, not (onely) consumed the wealth of the Weale-publique, but also, the health of the people. Glottony and Dronkenes

Limitation of Apparell

¶ Item: He cõmaũded, ỹ no Gentlemã, Romain, ſhuld haue moꝛe then thꝛee Sutes of Apparel: one, foꝛ Oꝛdinarie dayes: one other foꝛ Feſtiuall tymes: and the thyꝛd, foꝛ the entertainmẽt of Ambaſſadoꝛs: alleadging, that all theſe were neceſſary, & what ſo euer was moꝛe, was ſuperfluous. This Lawe was alſo ſet doꝛwne by Phillip le Bel, to reforme the pꝛide of Fraunce, and by Fardinando, King of Arragon, to huſbandꝛy the ſmal pentions of the Knightes of the Lande, which oꝛder he hym ſelfe erected.

Dycers made bond ſlaues

¶ Item: He enacted, if any Gentleman Romane, oꝛ Citizin of Rome, by playing at Dice, haũting of Tauarns, oꝛ any other vnthꝛiftie exerciſe, had cõſumed his patrimonie & ſubſtaunce, & was indebted moꝛe thẽ he was able to ſatiſfie: that thẽ, it ſhuld be lawfull foꝛ the Creditoꝛ, to take the partie offẽding, & to hold him as his bõd-ſlaue, ſo long as the ſeruice & labour of his body were thought ſufficient foꝛ his debt. Were this a lawe in England, I feare mee, at this pꝛeſent, we ſhuld haue moꝛe Gentlemen bond-men, then Yemen truſtie ſeruantes.

Lymitation for vſurie

¶ Item, Foꝛ that Vſury was the decay of a huge nũber, he enacted, ỹ no Vſerer, ſhuld take (after the cõputation of their money, moꝛe then ỹ allowance, of. iii. li, i. s. foꝛ a. C. li, foꝛ a yeare. And ỹ he which refuſed to deliuer his monie at this rate, ſhuld from thẽceforwth, be held vnwoꝛthie ỹ name of a Romain, oꝛ to take any benefit by the Weale-publique: But ſhuld, by ỹ Cenſors, be depꝛiued of ỹ name of a Citizin, &, foꝛeuer, after ſhuld be noated wỉ the cryme of Ingratitude.

¶ Item,

¶ Item, From hence forth, no necessitie be considered in them that consume their substaunce, in Dice playing, outragious expences or lechery: who so euer lendeth to them, let it be at his peril & without hope of remedie. But vnto him whom peruerse fortune, long sickenesse, seruice, frend-ship, thæues, or oppressors haue brought vnto pouertie: If any such come vnto the Prouost of the Citie, and declare his necessitie, and whereof it proceeded, vppon the oath of one Senator, and two honest Cõmoners, that his words are true, ỹ Prouost shal assigne one rich man of the Citie to lend him a portion of mony, taking assuraunce for the payment thereof, for the gayne before limited.

Mony lent to dice players without hope to be recouered.

Assignement of Creditors for distressed persones.

¶ Item, He enacted, that if any Citizin of Rome, were found idle, by the space of one whole day, vnlesse, vpon a Festiuall Day, hauyng no lawful nor approued excuse: that then, he should be first whipped, and after, by the Conseruators, he should be set to the trade that he was of, and for euery day, that he was openly seene, to be idle, the person, to whom he was committed, for one month, should set him to what labour he pleased, as his slaue or bond-man, ginyng him, meat and drinke, onely.

Idle persons set a worke

¶ Item: He commaunded, that the Controwlers of the Markettes, should be honest men, and not couetous: and (for the auoydyng of the Infection) that they should diligently forsee, that the Victualles, which were sould, should be sweete and holsome for to be eaten.

For Corrupt of victuales

Late suppers.

¶ Item: To auoide cause of Infection, and horrible Diseases, he prohibited Ingurgitations, Bankets, late Suppers and longe.

Naysome occupations.

¶ Item: He cõmaũded, that men of corrupt and noysome Occupations, should dwell out of the common passage of the people: And that the strætes of the Cities, should be kepte very cleanly and swæte.

Sweete keeping of baynes

¶ Item, He cõmaunded that the Baynes, by distræte kæpers, should be kept very neate and swæt, that neither the eye nor Nose, should find any thyng vnpleasant or noysome. By which cleanlinesse, Rome was preserued from sundry sicknesses, which (vndoubtedly) do growe of corrupt exhalations, venting out of mennes bodies.

Hospitals for poore people

¶ Item, Of his owne charge, he builded thræ Hospitalles, to relieue the Aged, blind, decreaped, and other powre people, infected wt vncureable Diseases

Cure for deseased Vacabondes.

¶ Item: He commaunded, that vnto a nomber of yong diseased vacabunds, there shuld be ministred, a thin Diet, an excellue labor, and cleanly lodging: saying that the contrarie, were the caules of their Diseases, and, therfore, this the most hopefull Medicine, to recouer their health.

Prouision of Corne.

¶ Item: He commaunded, that all the Forfaytures which were leuied, vpon the Goodes of Defenders against the Lawe, should be imployed vpon Corne for the prouision of the powre.

¶ Item

¶ Item: He commaunded, that no man should weare in his Apparayle, no maner of Stuffe, other then was made within the Cittie of Rome. The lyke Statute was established in all the Cyties of Italye: by meanes wherof, Rome and all the other Cyties were stoared of good Workemen, and the poore people, no excuse for Idlenes. A lawe for The setting of Poore people a worke.

¶ Item: He commaunded, that in bittailling and Bordel-houses, the Dores should not be open from the Sun-settyng vntyll the Sun-rysyng: by which Pollycie, the Conseruators knewe, what manner of people repayred vnto them. Vitayling and bordell-houses

¶ Item: Euery Cittizyn, was straightly forbidden, to eate or drinke in any Tauerne, or bittayling House: whiche Houses, were (only) tollerated, for the intertainment of Straungers, which repayred vnto the Cyttie about lawfull businesse, Cyttizyns forbydden. Tauernes.

¶ Item: He cõmaunded, that all corrupt and deceitfull Bargayners, should bee punished with the Whyp, as Theeues, that stole priuylie, without any violence: affyrming, that it was but a fantasie, and a laughyng-matter, to make a difference, betweene stealyng and deceitfull bargayninge. But, were this a Lawe with vs, we shuld haue more weeping in London, then laughynge in three of the greatest Shiers of England. Corrupt and deceatfull bargayners. punished as Petty theaues

¶ Item: He commaunded: that if any base conditioned person, by the presumption of welth, shuld vnequall comparysons

make any lawfull comparison with any Gentleman Romayne: immediatly, the said Franklyne, should become the Gentlemans Bondslaue, with whome he compared, vntil the said Franklyn, had made the Gentleman his superiour, al well in wealth, as dignytie: And this Lawe hindered many quarrelles, which (otherwise) would haue growen of vnequall comparysons.

Playes abolyshed

Item: He commaunded, that the Playes, called Florales and Luberales, and the beastly Ceremonies of Isis, shuld be banished and abolished, as the most venymous Allectiues and styrrers of Lecherie.

Diceplayers.

¶ Item: He ordayned, ỳ if any man were founde playing at the Dice, he shuld be taken, for a frantick or a natural fole, which could not gouerne himself: and his goodes and lande, should be committed to sage and discrete Gouernours, vntyll he were againe enabled by the Senate.

Vnto these Lawes, was added this Confyrmation.

¶ These Lawes, decreed by the Senate, enacted by the people, confirmed by the imperiall Maiestie, be (for euer) established: and (neuer) by anye other Lawe, Custome or Ordinance, be abolyshed. And who, that with violence, resisteth against them, let him be taken for a Rebell and Ennemie vnto the Weale-publique.

¶ Of the

Of the great VVisdome of ALEXANDER, in cleaving of Graue Counsellers, Officers, and Admynistrators of Iustice.

THE Noble and vertuous Emperour (prudently) forsawe, that the seuerest lawes, were (without execution) but like vnto painted Fire, which giueth no heat: or (as the Philosopher, Cleanthes sayth:) Lyke vnto Cobwebs, through which, the Hornets breake when the small Flies are intangled. And (truely) without due Administration, law is like to a Backswoorde, the edge wherof, smiteth the poore, and the blunt backe, the higher powers. But to auoyd this partialytie: the good Alexander, made choyce of such worthy Maiestrates, as (playnly) refuted this Maxime of Aristotle.

Amor et odium, et proprium commodum,
Semper facient Iudices, non cognoscere verum.

¶ In Englysh, thus:

¶ Loue, Hate, and priuate gayne,
From vpright trueth, the Iudge doth alwayes straine

None of these Affections, could (neyther) blinde their eyes, nor binde their handes: They measured Iustice, neither by the mightinesse nor meanenesse of the Person, but by the equitie of the cause: and it stoode them in hande, to deale thus vprightly: for if any corruption were founde in their Iudgements, the Emperour himselfe, did (seuere) Iustice vppon the vniust Maiestrate, that abused his Authorytie,

and iniured the people: let Vetronius Turinus, be ex-ample, for many.

This Turinus, was a man of much Honour, great learning and wisdome: and for many vertues, was of the Emperour (singularly) fauoured: but, abusing the Emperour and his own good fortune, vnder colour of often and familiar conference vñ Alexander, he receiued many Bribes to obtaine great Iutes, aboue his power to compasse: whiche beyng prouued agaynst him, the Emperours sentence was: That in the Market place, he should bee bounde vnto a Stake, and with a Smoake of greene Stickes and wette Stubble, should be smothred to death: And duryng the tyme of his Execution, he commaunded a Beadell to crye:

With Fume let him die, that Fumes hath sould.

Thus, no knowen Offender, escaped the vengeance of his seuerytie: and (which won him as much loue, as his Iustice did feare,) he incouraged & comforted good & vertuous men, with many great gifts and fauours.

Conseruators and their chardge.

¶ That Rome might prosper, by the confusion of vice: First, he ordayned (according to the counsell of PLATO,) three-score graue persons, which were named, CONSERVATORS of the Weale-publique: for euery Tribe had two: Roome beynge deuided into thirtie Tribes: whose Office, was (chiefly) to see, that the children of the Romains, were well brought vp and instructed, according vnto the capacities of their wits, from the Age of .vii. yeres, vnto .xvi. yeares: & that, in their Pastimes, playes and recreations, were nothyng dishonest.

Education of children.

¶ Item,

¶ Item: That the Maidens, duryng the said Age, were brought vp in shamefastnes, humblenes, and the exercise of Huswifrye: and that they should not be seene forth of their Fathers-houses, but (only) in the Temples. Education of maydens

¶ Item: their charge was, to controwle Howseholders of euery degree, if there were fownde any excesse in their fare, or cost vpon their owne, or their Wyues Apparayle, more then by the Lawes, was limitted: or if they were Company-keepers with any riotous or dishonest person. Riotous housholders

¶ Item: Twice (by the weeke) they were bownd to make Presentment of the Disorders whiche they fownd, vnto the Prouost of the Cittie, reseruing vnto them-selues, the education of the Children: which they-them-selues reformed, by giuing of sharpe Admonytion vnto their Parentes. Presentation twice by the weeke.

¶ The Prouost punished suche, as offended in other Articles, against the Statutes and Ordinaunces, in suche cases prouided. Prouost of al the Citty.

¶ Item: The Emperour augmented the nomber of Prætors and Questors, but appointed euerye one a seuerall Charge. Pretores and Questors

¶ Item: He made choyce, of very honest men to be Puruiours for grayne, but changed them euery yeare, least, continuance corrupted their cõsciences. Puruiours of grayne

¶ Item: He apointed Baylyffes, Receiuers, Surueiours, and such like Officers, but fauoured them not, saying: they were necessarie euils: And if they hastilie gathered much riches, he would take away al that they had. Telling them. Let it suffice, that you haue taken so long pleasure with my goodes: and beware that you take not from other men vniustly, least I be more angrie with you.

¶ Item: To be Iudges of these Officers, as also of the behauiours of all the people of Rome, sauing the common people, were they Senatores, Gentlemen or Citizens. This prudent Emperour appointed two of his priuie Counsel, worthy and graue Senators, to be Censors in Rome, whose names were Fabius Sabinus, and Catillius Seuerus. The office of the Censors, were to note the manners of euerie person, aboue the degree of the common people.

Censors, and their office.

So that if a Knight, Iudge, or Senator, did any thing vnseeming the Honour of their Degree, their charge was, to degrade hym of his office, or Dignitie. In whiche, they vsed suche rigour, as no man might (lawfully) boast of fauor. In so much as ỹ Emperors Pallace was not free from their iurisdiction. For they meeting with Aurelius Philippus, (who was sometime the Emperours schoolmaster, and after wrote his life) riding in a Chariot, looking to be saluted as a Senatour, they forthwith executed an auncient law vpon the said Philippus: which was, that no bond-man, although hee were manumisled, should be a Senatour: And at thattime, it was lawful for no person vnder the degree of a Senatour

tour to ride in a Chariot. Philippus was sometime a bond-man, and therefore, for breach of this lawe, the Censors sent him first to prison, and after, forbad him to come to the Emperors pallace, but (onelie) a foot, and his copped Cappe vpon his head: which fashiō was onelie vsed of them that were enfranchised. Some of the Noble-men thought, the Censors dealt verie sharplie with Philippus, considering, that hee was a man of much honestie, and great learning, and so certefied the Emperour. But the Emperour approued their Iustice, and answered:

If the common wealth may euermore haue such officers, in short space, there shall be found in Roome more men worthie to be Emperours, than I (at my first comming) found good Senators.

And vndoubtedlie, where the offences of the best are neuer pardoned, the worst will amend for feare of extreme vengeance. The proofe appeareth in Alexanders gouernment: who (by the seuere executiō of the lawes, so brideled the dispositions of the wicked, that it may be saide, they grew to be vertuous rather by custome, then good inclination. Yea, it is written, that his seueritie thus much profited: As leading a great armie against Artaxerses, the Persians, said, he had brought an armie of Senatours, rather than of Soldiours, when at his comming to ỹ Empire, the Senatours (manie of them) were as dissolute as common Soldiers. And one especiall cautle hee vsed in the searche of mens behauiours, hee woulde manye tymes in disguyled habyte, with diuers others by hym especiallye elected,

A wise pollicie of Alexander.

take vpō him the Office of the Censors: and in euery corner, he had (secretly) suche faythfull Explorers, as mens proper Houses, were no Couerts for naughtie practises, nor the Senat-house, for partial Judgmentes. And (by this Pollycie) he discouered many naughtie matters, besides cōmon trespasses: as the Treason of Oninius, the false accusation of Geminus, by his Lybertines, or Copyholders: as (also) of the mortall malice of Duillius and Gotta, towardes the said Geminus. In so much, as the people, seyng nothyng that was euyl, could escape his vengeāce, al men indeuored to do well, to purchase his fauour.

King Henry the seuenth, Imitator of Alexanders gouernment.

THE (most Noble and prudent) kynge, kynge HENRY, the seuenth, the Quœnes (most excellent Maiesties Graundfather, and Rote of Englandes happinesse, was a true imitator, of this (most worthy) Emperours gouernmēt: by whose singular wisdome, England, which at the beginning of his Raigne: was a deformed, and decreped Commonwealthe, by reason of the longe tyme of the Cyuyl warres which durynge hyr Kinges Raignes made barrayne feildes, and fatt Churche-yardes) before his deathe, repossessed her Auncient Vertues, renown and prosperytie. So that it is a questiō, whither this famous Realm is more bownd to eternize his glorious Memorie, in regarde of his Prowesse, or Pollycie: when by the one, he planted Peace in her bowelles, and by the other, banished warre frō the Terrytories. He knew, that to reforme so disordered an estate, it was more needefull to execute, then to make Lawes; and (therfore) not trustyng

the

the corruption of common Informers, who, for lucre or gain, attemptyng many vexations against poore men, and for feare, seke to please the ritche: he committed the execution of the Penall Lawes, to the charge of these two worthie Coūsellers, sir Richard Empson, knight, and Richarde Dudley, Esquier: who so seuerely chastened the rich and great Offenders, as they stirred the inconstant cōmunaltie, after the death of the vertuous Henrie the seuenth, to seke their lyues: who had their willes, for feare of Commotion, theise two worthie Maiestrates weare beheaded: And (vndoubtedly) their deathes, is a testimonie of as great vertue, as their liues, a Monument of Justice: for the multitude, are the mortall Enemies of their owne welfare, and frendes and followers of their owne confusion. One said to Anisthenes: The people speaketh much good of you: Why? saide he: what hurt haue I done? As who should say: they seldome praise, but suche as do euil: No Ethnicke, deserued to lyue, better then Socrates, yet the people would haue hym dead. The Athenians had a Lawe, euerie yeare, by the most voyces of the people, for ten yeares, to banysh two of their principall Maiestrates: On a tyme, a poore man, came with a white Paper in his hande to Aristides, the iust, and willed him to write: Banish Aristides. Why? (quoth he:) doest thou know Aristides? No: (quoth the other:) Hath Aristides done thee or any of thy friendes, hurte? Neither (quoth he) but I wyll haue Aristides banished. The worthy Scipio was banished by the people, whome he oft had saued. I omyt Themistocles, Photion, & many mo, whome

Inclynation of Common Informers

The lewde affections, of Common people.

Hiſtories record, to ſhewe the light Iudgementes of Cõmons, Dante, the Italian Poet, ſaith full truely of them: it is ſeldome ſeene, that the people crye not:

Viua la mia morte, innoia la mia vita: Let liue my death: let die my lyfe: Yea, thoſe great eſtates, that ſeek to pleaſe the people, for the moſt parte, haue had the endes of enemies to their Countrey.

When Cicero ſawe that Cæſar was in hye fauour with the people of Rome, he cryed out: It is great pitie, that the affabilitie of Cęſar, ſhould be the ouerthrow of the Weale-publique. And (truely) Cicero, propheſied rightly: for, by their fauour, Cęſar iudged the Iudgementes of the Senate, and ſent the good and graue Cato to Priſon, whoſe vertues, obtayned reuerence of the worſt liuers.

But (notwithſtandyng) the Affections of the multitude, roueiteth their owne vndoynges, yet their incouragement procœdeth of greater capacyties: And (therfore) the redy way to kœpe them in awe, is (ſeuerely) to punyſh their Chief-taynes.

In all tumultes, it is (euidently) ſeene, that if their Captaynes yelde, they ronne away: if their Incouragers be diſmayde, they ſing, Peccaui: do Iuſtice vpon the great Offenders, and the meaner wyll ſone amend: Alexander (in his Gouernment) found it true: who, in the Execution of the Lawes, made no difference of perſons: ſaue, that, to the inferiour people, he was (euermore) moſt merciſull.

FINIS.

BRITISH 4.00.71 MUSEUM

AN ADDITION: OR

TOVCHSTONE

for the Time: expoſyng the dain gerous Miſchiefes, that the Dicyng Howſes (cõmonly called) Ordinarie Tables, and other (like) Sanctuaries of Iniquitie, do dayly breede:

Within the Bovvelles of the famous CITIE of LONDON.

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G.ii.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

The dangerous Miſchiefes, that the DICING-HOVSES, and other lyke Sanctuaries of iniquitie, do breede in the Cittie of LONDON.

IT is ſufficiently expreſſed, that, by the vertue, diligence, and wiſdom, of the right Noble Emperour, Alexander: Rome, (the moſt ougiye, and monſterous Common-wealth of the woꝛld, ſo wa- ſhe deſoꝛmed, with hoꝛrible & beaſtly vices, foſtered by Heliogabalus, & other wicked Emperours,) was bꝛought vnto ſuch perfection, as ſhe might (la wofullye) bee intituled: The Temple of the Goddes: The Fowntayne of Vertue, and, The Nurce of Learnyng: ſo frée was the Exerciſe of Pietie, Juſtice, Temperance, and all other Deuine, Moꝛall, and Heroycall vertues. The wounded of a Comon wealth

In curyng of which daungerous Infirmyties of the Cõmon-wealth, Alexander perfourmed the Offices of a ſkylfull Phiſitton and Surgion: he did not (ignoꝛantly) apply Medicine, to the outwarde ſoꝛe, vntyll he had ſearched the inward cauſe: He founde, the outwarde woundes of the Weale-publique, was Pride, Prodigalytie, Dicynge, Dꝛunkennelle, Lecherie, Vſurie, Couetouſnes &c. The ſuppꝛeſſing of which Paſſions, conſiſted not (alone) in chaſtiſment of Offenders: He (pꝛudently) foꝛeſawe, that ỳ Boatman loſt much labor, that with a With, ſtode all day ladyng out of water, when a quarter of an hoꝛes woꝛke, wold

mende the breache of his Boate, whiche was the cause, although the water were the annoyance: he knew, that euery Ryuer had a Spring, euery Disease, a nourishing Humour, and euery vice, a special succour: Reason instructed him, that no Theefe would be so bould, as to rob by the hye waye, if he had no Couert to shrowd hym: If there were no Brothell Houses, Shame would delay Lechery. But for Tauerns and tiplyng Bowthes, Drunkardes should be sober against their wils: But for Ordinarie tables, Dicers should (many times) be idle, or better occupied then in swearyng and consumyng their Patrimonie: These causes beynge stopped, the vitious (perforce) must change their courte. And therfore, the good Emperour, as the best remedie for the maladies of the Cõmon-wealth, purged Rome, of theese Sanctuaries of lewd and dishoneſt persons, as the perfect meane to cure their vile and naughtie dispositions. And (certaynly) his Gouernment, Order, and Discipline, may be, A Myrrour for Magistrates of all Cities: who are lyke to linde no lacke of Disorders, to exercise his Politique Orders: for, in the heart of the best gouerned Cities, Vice hath her Mansion, as a Core in the inward substance of the lowndeſt Quince. But, leauyng the Discourse of the Infyrmities of Forreigne Cities, London, the Capitol Cittie of Englande (and at this day, the Paragon of Chriſtendome,) prowdely beareth many a daungerous Infyrmytie, whiche, the Wisdome of the Maiſtrates, must (spedely) heale, or els, ouershortely, the wickednesse of her people, wyll abate her prosperytie.

¶A remem-

A Remembrance, of the

Disordered State of the Common-wealth, at the Queenes Maiesties commyng to the Crowne.

THE Queenes most Excellent Maiestie, (euen our Gratious Queene Elizabeth) by Gods grace Soueraigne Ladye of this famous Cittie, and of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande (in aduauntage,) sole Princesse of Peace, and second to no annoincted kyng, in the exercise of all the Capitol Vertues: let Gods blessinges bee my Testimonie, (plentifullie) heaped vpō her Excellencie, and (for her Holinesse sake) vpon her true Subiectes, and many a hungrye Nation, besides: Her sacred Maiestie, (I saye) at suche time, as she was crowned with the Soueraignte of these Realmes, fownd ENGLANDE, and (specially) LONDON, farre out of temper, (besides Cardinall Superstition) with carnall and vnchaste infections of Rome, as (also) puffed or half poysoned, with the pryde of Spayne.

For the saluynge of which, and all other Infirmyties, of the Common-wealth, her Godly wisdome, with the Publique assent of her Subiectes, established many Medicinable Lawes, whereby, all the pryue Maladies of the Cōmon-wealth, might receiue perfect cure, if the Penall Lawes were as seuerely punished, as they be (prudētly) established.

But

Negligence in Maiestrates causeth bouldenes in euill lyuers.

But, the (onely) lacke of this Admynistration is, the Maiestrate punisheth, but what is presented, and the Iniured (in many wronges) suffayne their losses without complaynt: Thus, lacke of diligence, bouldneth the euyll lyuers to offende, with Halters about their neckes.

Invaying against stage playes.

The godly Diuines, in publique Sermons, and others, in printed Bookes, haue (of late) very sharply inuayed against Stage-playes (vnproperly called, Tragedies, Cõmedies, and Moralles,) as the Springes of many vices, and the stumblyng-blockes of Godlynesse and Vertue: Truely, the vse of them vpon the Saboth day, and the abuse of them at al times, with scurilytie and vnchaste cõuetance, ministred matter sufficient for them to blame, and the Maiestrate to reforme.

Playinge at dice invented by the deuill

But, there are in the Bowels of this famous Citie, farre more daungerous Playes, and little reprehended: that wicked Playes of the Dice, first inuented by the Deuyll (as Cornelius Agrippa, writeth,) and frequented by vnhappy men: The detestable Route, vpon which, a thousand villanies growe.

Ordinarie Tables Nurses of Iniquitie

(The Nurses of theise (worse then Heathnysh) Hellish exercise, are Places (called) Ordinary-tables: Of which, there are, in London, more in nomber, to honor the Deuyll, then Churches to serue the liuing God: neither are they (improperly) named: for, in verye trueth, they are the Ordinarie Intertayners of naughtie persons, and the Sinckes of all abhomynation. But some wyll holde it conuenient, that I make a Difference of Ordinarie Tables, because, of the ciuill vsage & Orders of some of the keepers,

Difference of ordinarie Tables

as

as in respect of the Honourable and worshipfull repayre vnto them. In very trueth, in some of these places, Vice is so modestly quallyfied, as they may well be called: tollerable euylles. And (although) Socyetie be a pleasing Affection, I hope, (as occasion will fall out) to satisfie the better sorte of Gentlemen, that, the restraynynge of the best of these badde Houses, wyll be more profitable, Honorable & pleasant, then the frequentyng of them.

The namyng of the ciuiller sort, of these Houses, I omyt: because, in reportyng of the viler sort, and horrible vices that they foster, is farre from my intent: either in name, or figure, to discipher any person that kæpeth them, or eny Guest that haunteth them: protestyng before God and man, that my labour searcheth the rote of this fowle ympostume, which vomiteth a nomber of seuerall filthy coloured Corruptions: onely, to admonish the græner sort of Gentlemen, who are aptest to receiue the Infection, and to laye before the Magistrate, the Poyson of theasse Vlcers: to whose wisdomes, the cure belõgeth: and in this trauell, I suppose, I deserue wel of the worst liuers, in that I (charitably) admonysh them, to reforme the euylles, that Time may discouer, by their vndoyng: And so to my purpose,

This worke is not made particulerly to blame any person, but generally to blason abuse.

THere are within the Subvrbes of London, diuers worthie Houses, called, Innes of the Court and of the Chaūcerie: Places, where the Lawes of this Realme, are (publiquely) read, studied and learned: Places, of much Honour,

Innes of the Court, places of much reuerence.

and Reputation, al well, in respect of the Reuerentnesse of the Personages, whiche gouerne them, as (also) for the exercise of the Lawes) whiche are the strength and Ornamentes of euery wel gouerned Cõmon-wealth,) euery Gentleman, and (almost) Yeman of Abylitie, sendeth the ripest witted of his Children, vnto some one of thease Houses, to study the common Lawes of Englande. And (truely) the good Father, in this charge, dischargeth the loue of a Father towardes his Sonne, and the duetie of a frende, towardes his Countrey: for by suche as are learned in the Lawes (if they abuse not their knowledge) besides an especial benefit & reputation, which they (priuatly reape) vnto them-selues, the Ignorance of their Neighbours where they dwell, is (profitably) instructed: But, by reason of Dicyng-howses, and other Alectiues too vnthriftinesse, the good Father, which is at charge, to make his Sonne a Lawier, to do his Countrey seruice, throughe the lewdenesse of the Sonne (many times) spendeth his money to the vndwyng of his posterytie.

qicing houses ar a hinderãce to the studie of the lawe

One scabbed sheepe infecteth a hole flocke

The swarme of Vnthriftes, whiche lyue vpon Shiftes, in, and within the Cittie of London (first seaze vpon these Yonglynges: by their lewde conuersation, they drawe them from Studdie, and do acquaint them with these wicked Ordinaries:

Dyc ing houses, causes of pride

Wheare, the Brauerie of the Companie, the glæ and Reuell that they kæpe, were able to brynge a stayde man vnto their Societie, but are sure to inchaunt a light yongman, which cõmeth (rawly) out of ỹ coũrey. What foloweth? Pride (straightwayes) infecteth him with desire to be as braue as the best:

Well,

Well: if he haue liuyng, either in possession or possybilitie, he shall finde sweete Baites to choake him. Moste of these wicked places, namely three Guestes that will soundly bowrd this vnexperienced yonge Gentleman, and of his abylitie wyl maintain them selues. These be the names of their facultie.

Three dangerous gwestes belonging to ordinarie tables

The braue Shifter: the Bawde, and the Broaker.

¶ The braue Companion, who in Apparayle, countenaunce, and boldnes, wyll cheacke-mate with men of right good worshyp, and lyuing, when he (perhaps) in a Greene Thycket getteth a Masked face, a Pystoll, and a Whyppe rode, and hath Inheritaunce in the Ile of Snatch: Aduentureth to Cape Gripe: I know not by what conning shiftes. But if I did, I thinke it necessary to conceale them, least the instruction wold prowe more hurtful to the euill inclined, then the Admonition, profitable, to the wel disposed: But this, I am assured, and many a Gentlemans vndoyng, witnesseth as muche: that these expert Shifters, by false Dice, slipperie castynge, or some other nice Sleight: althoughe all the Daye, they dallye with younge Nouices. as a Catte doeth with a Mouse: yet, before Bedde tyme, they wyll make their Purses as emptie of Money, as the Catte the Mouses headde of Braynes.

Descriptiou of braue shyfters

Braue shifters lyue vp on the cosenage of play!

If a man had none other Flie suckynge of hym, he should finde, a fewe of Ordinarie Dinners would luppe a greate deale of Substaunce. But, as a slayne Carckase, in an open fielde, is a Pray

pray, for many kyndes of vermyn. Euen so, a plaine minded man vsing these deceitful houses, is an assured praye for al sortes of shyfters.

The man that is inticed to be a Dicer, of his owne accorde wil be a Horsemaster: But (say you) if he haue not acquaintance, the banishment of the Stewes wyl kepe hym chast. But say as the Prouerbe is. Monie will hyre a guide to go to the Deuile: And (certes) as dailie gheasts at ordinarie Tabls, a man shal fynde neate Bawdes, that onely lyue vppon the brocage of loue, fellowes that wyl procure acquaintaunce for a dumbe man. These be no bashful Besogniers, but such as glory in their facultie. Their cõmon talke shal be Ribaldry, and matter of their profession. To conclude, he that hath aduantage, slily bloweth a meeting of faire women into my yong maisters eares: His company nedeth not to be desired. Incontinent desire maketh him wood of their societie. Gods blood, lets goe, straight he cryeth, and with more haste, then good spæde, they goe to some blind brothel-house wher (peraduẽture) for a Pottle or two of wyne, the imbracement of a paynted Harlot, and the French Pockes for a reckoning, the Punie payeth fortie shillings, and yet my braue Besognier hath a more costly reckoning to geue hym. He wyl accompanie him familierly vp and downe the Citie, and in the ende wyll come vnto a Mercers or a Gold-smythes shop, with whome he had before set his matche, he wyl cheapen, Veluet, Satten, Iuels, or what hym lyketh, and tender his owne & companions credit for payment: He wyll with so boulde a countenaunce alke this frendshyp of the Gentleman,

Brokers of Bawdry. haunters of Dycing houses.

Cossonage of Bawdes.

Gentleman, as the other shalbe to seeke of excuse to denie him: Well, although the pennyworthes of the one, be not verye good, the payment of the other, is sure to be currant: thus, by vnsatiable ryot, whereof, Dicyng Houses are the Fountaynes, the veelthiest of our yong Gentlemen, are soone learned to lynge.

¶ Diues eram dudum, sed tria, mé fecerunt nudum,
Alia, vina, venus, tribus his, sum factus egenus.

I wealthie was of late, though naked now you se:
Three things haue chaunged mine estate. Dice, Wine, (and Lecherie.

¶ But (without doubt) the infation of theese Tabling Houses, is so pleasant, that a man which hath lost all his money, by the exercise of them, euen, in the place of his vndoyng, he wyll (moneylesse) be an idle loker on, of other mens vnthriftinesse.

Then seazeth the third of theese Gheastes vpon this needie Gentleman, which is: The Broaker: who is (either) an olde Bankrupt Citizin: or som smoothe condicioned vnthriftie Gentleman, farre in debte: some one of these wyll help him to credit, with some of their Creditors, w̄ a single protestation of meere courtesie: But (by your fauour) vppon this double vsance: the Citizyn Broaker, after deduction for his owne paynes, consideration for the time giuen, and losse in sellyng of the wares considered: wyll bryng him .L. M. pounds, currant money, for a .C. pownds good debt: The Gentleman Broaker, will deale more Caualiero-like: he will be bownde with hym for a .C. pownds, shaarynge the Money betweene them, not without solempne protestation, faithfully

Brokers for mony and their Cossonage.

to discharge his owne fiftie powndes, and (if nede be) the whole hundred powndes: Assuraunce (trust mee) as good as a Statute Staple, and a measure of his forte, as sure as eyther. But, let all this mischiefe go: here is want supplied, whiche breaketh Brasen walles: and Money receyued, whiche betrayeth Kynges, blindeth Iudges, and iudgeth Iustice: and for the same, but Incke, Waxe and Parchement, deliuered: Mary (sir) a merye exchange: a mery Exchange (in deed) if a man shuld (alwayes) be so busied in receiuyng, as there might be no leasure so wonde for repayment: But (vnhappy young Gentleman) what so thou bee that art thus matched: thoughe thy coueitous loue of Money is (lightly) suche, as thou haddest rather become Debter for fortie powndes, then to spare fortie shyllynges out of thy owne Purse: yet learn this Lesson (as a sound Counsel:) that thou weart better giue one of these Franions, ten powndes, then to be bound for fiftene: for, what so remaineth, thou sauest, when all that thou venturest, thou losest: and be thou sure, though thou wilt finde no leasure to satisfie thy couenaunt, thy Creditor wyll worke thee an Arrest, that shall giue thee little ease, and lesse Lybertie, vntyll he be fully contented & paid. But al in vain Medicine is applied to vncurable Maladies: as smallie auayleth good Counsell giuen vnto the Prodigall.

A good lesson for younge Gentlemen.

Prodigalitie a passion vncurable.

Lib. de liberalit

Prodigalytie & Coueitousnesse, are two extreame Passions, and as violent are their cures: Begerie, is the ende of Prodigalytie, & Death, of Coueitousnesse: Yet, as Iouius Pontanus saith, the Coueitous man is the worst of both: for he doth no man (not so much as himself) good wt his goods: when the Prodigal, by the

the vndoing of himself, inricheth many. Thus, what may be best said of Prodigalyte, concludeth an vndoyng of him-self & posterytie. The famous Lawier Vlpianus saith: the prodigal man, neither obserueth time, nor maketh end of riot, vntil riot hath, both cõsumed him & his Patrimony. The sage Solõ, made a law, to defame prodigal men. The Areopagites, and criminal Judges of Athens, punished prodigall mẽ, as idle, vagrant & vnprofitable mẽ. The x. Gouernors of Rome, made a law, ỹ prodigal mẽ, should neither haue ỹ gouernmẽt nor dispositiõ of their own goods: but vnto him shuld be giuẽ a Curator, by ỹ appointmẽt of ỹ Judge. By the cõmaũdement of Q. Pompeius, Pretor, Q. Fabius, ỹ Son of Q. Fabius, the great (surnamed) Allobrogique-for ỹ riotous dispending of his Patrimonie, was indited by this law, & cõmitted vnto ỹ gouernment of a Tutor. Were this law executed in England, we shuld haue more Wardes, of. xxxv. then. xv. yeares of Age. The Gretians, had a law, ỹ whosoeuer had vnthriftily cõsumed his patrimony, shuld not be buried in ỹ sepulchre of his Auncestors, for ỹ he was held vnworthie the Honor of his Auncestors, ỹ dishonoreth himselfe, & robbeth his posterytie. The ancient, graue & politique Cõmõ-wealth mẽ, thus seuerely chastned Prodigalytie: though prodigal men had no care of thẽ-selues, they tendered the posterytie of their posterytie: they (like vnto careful Philitions, that prouide preternatiues because the infection of the Plague is daungerous) sought ỹ meanes, ỹ Prodigalytie might not be nourished: fore-seeyng that prodigall men, neyther reuerenced good Counsayle, nor feared Discipline. Vale. Max. li 3. Cha. 5.

And (surely) it is a worke of greater Iustice, mercifullie, to find a way to preserue men from offending then (seuerely) to punish euery offence.

Suppresse these vnthriftie Houses, and you shall kæpe many a mans Landes from selling, many a mans neck from the Halter, & the Cõmon-wealth, (perhaps) from a more daungerous mischiefe.

I haue (but yet) begun, to anatomize the Head, of this villanous Sanctuarie of Iniquitie, a heape of euilles followe. The deceipt of Dice, the charge of Lecherie, Colonage and Brocage, is all that I haue yet layde vpon our vnhappy Gentlman: These (onely) pray vpon Gould, Siluer, and suche light carraidge. These be but suckyng flies, the bityng Scorpions come after. A Byrde that hath but one feather limed, by striuing, fetreth her whole body: Euen-so, the vnfortunate Gentleman, thrust behinde the hande, by the hazard of Dice, through a vaine hope, to redæme himselfe, followeth his mischiefe, to the spendynge of the last payment of his Lande, And to helpe him forwarde, some one Spie or Pettifogger of the Lawe (the reuerence done vnto the Law and good Lawiers reuerenced,) I may iustly saye, the Scum of all villanie, is (euer-more) sneakyng in these Ordinarie Houses: This notable Companion, kæpeth an Alphabet, of all the rich Gentlemens names, that frequenteth the Ordinaries: his eyes are settled vpon their dispositions, and his exercise is, dayly, to search the Rolles, and the Office of the Statutes, to learn what Recognizances, Morguages and Statutes do charge their Landes: This is the most pernitious Broaker, the other

A Petifogger a most daungerous broker.

Exercyse of ordinarie Table petyfoggers.

other helped the needie gentleman to money at fiftie in the hundred losse, but he helpeth him to sell free land at fiue yeres purchase.

I must here digresse from the prodigalitie of the gentleman, vnto the couetousnesse and vsurie, I can not properly say of the Citizen, although he dwelleth in ỳ Citie: for the true Citizen (whereof London hath plentie) liueth vpon his trade, be he an aduenturer abroade, or a mecanicall crafts man at home. But these shames of good Citizens tradeth but to a dycing house, or at the furthest trauaileth to a bowling alley, and with ease & safetie getteth wealth as fast as the other doe with great hazard and trauell. They come not to play the vnthrifts, but to play vpon vnthrifts: and yet for companie, and to auoide suspition, they will sometime play the good fellowes. All the rest are but instruments for these daungerous catchers. These neede not too greedily seeke for purchases, the necessitie of the gentlemen maketh them faire offers: and their spies, the petifogger and others giueth them knowledge where there is sound dealing. Among them there is such deceit coloured with such cleanly shifts, as many gentlemen are for a trifle shifted out of their liuings without hope of remedie. The extremitie of these mens dealings hath beene and is so cruell, as there is a natural malice generally impressed in the hearts of the gentlemen of England towards the citizens of London, insomuch as if they odiously name a man, they foorthwith call him A trimme merchaunt. In like dyspight the

Couetous Citizens hunt ordinarie tables to vndoe Gentlemen.

The extreme dealing of couetous Citizens haue setled a deadly enmie betweene Gentlemen and merchaunts.

Citizen calleth euery rascall A ioly Gentleman.

And truely this mortall enuie betweene these two worthie estates, was first engendred of the cruell vsage of couetous merchaunts, in hard bargaines gotten of Gentlemen, and nourished with malitious words and reuenges taken of both parties. S. Paul by good warrant saith, That couetousnesse is the roote of all mischiefe. S. Augustine saith, that the couetous man is subiect to all euils, for that all euils come of couetousnesse. He moreouer saith, that wilde beasts haue measure, for being hungrie they pursue their praies, and being full are satisfied: but the couetous man is neuer satisfied. He neither feareth God, nor reuerenceth man, pardoneth not his father, nor acknowledgeth his mother, maketh merchandize of his children, regardeth not his brother, nor yet keepeth faith wt his friend, beareth false witnesse, offendeth the widow, & destroyeth the Infant. O how great is ỹ follie of our vnderstanding, to lose life, to seeke death, & to banish ourselues from heauen: S. Bernard saith, ỹ the accursed chariot of couetousnesse, is drawen with foure disloyall wheeles of vices, vz. Pusalanimite, Crueltie mispriſing of God, and forgetfulnesse of certaine death. The two horses are named Theft, & Hardnesse. The waggoner is Earnest desire to haue, who vseth two sharpe whippes: the one called Disordered appetite to get, the other, Feare to loose. The opinion of Apuleius in his first booke of Magicke is worthy to be read, who writeth thus. The Philosopher Socrates had not so much riches as Lelius, nor Lelius somuch as Scipio, nor Scipio so much as the ri-

Tim. 1. cap. 6. The mischiefe of couetousnesse.

Foure wheeles of the chariot of couetousnesse.

The two horses.

The waggoner.

The two whippes.

Crassus, nor Crassus so much riches as he desired.
The Emperour Pertinax was so couetous, as he would inuite his friends vnto two small slyces of meate and a dish of apples, and when he would seeme most sumptuous and magnificent, he added the two genitories of a cocke. Iouian Pontanus saith, that Pope Martin was so couetous, as he would steale euerie night the burning tapers in S. Peters Church. The same Pontanus saith, that a Cardinal named Angel, euerie night would steale away from his own horses bottels of hay, and sel them to other ostlers, vntill his horsekeeper one night (taking of him tardy) swinged him currantly. To conclude the euils of couetousnesse, with the daungers it bringeth the common wealth vnto. When that haue licentiously spent their substance, and finde no liberalitie to supplie their wants, wish straight wayes an alteration of the estate, and what in them lieth practiseth the same. They fawne vpon ambitious men which are in authority, & betweene whom of the noble men is enuie, disdaine, or priuat displeasure, they help forward ỳ faction, they seeke matter of sedition, which being not wisely suppressed, ciuil commotions, battell, & destruction of people oftentimes followeth. Reade ỳ histories of Rome, & you shal find, that couetousnesse and vsurie haue begun many commotions, and could not be ended vntil the instruments & bonds of debt were cancelled. We need not search so farre, England & al other nations cary a large testimony in their own Chronicles of this fowle matter, and therefore

Pertinax Emperour.

Pope Martin.

Cardinall Angell.

Couetousnes a dangerous enemie to the common wealth.

Thucidides saith not vnproperly, That couetousnesse is the nurse of murther, theft, periurie, treason & all abhominations: not for that couetous men practise these villanies, but for that by extreme necessitie they driue men to these wicked shifts.

A probleme pithily aunswered by a Frenche Gentilman.

I heard a Frenche Gentleman resolue a probleme very pleasauntly and pithily. An Englishman demaunded the cause, That the young gentilmen of Fraunce flourished more than they of England, considering that the one were consumed with daily warre, when the other had continuall peace to strengthen them. O quoth the Frenche Gentleman, The quietnesse of your peace interrupteth not the deceit of your Citizens, who with the feeding of your pride, deuoureth your liuings: when with vs the troubles of warre so feare them, as to saue the swoorde from their throtes, they giue vs the golde in their chests. Fowle fall couetousnesse and vsurie which prooueth his saying true, and more grace or fewe daies happen vnto couetous wretches, who with the vndooing of many in the ende vndoe themselues.

Socrates common wealth poore.

Socrates found that aboundance of wealth was the ouerthrowe of many common wealthes, and therefore in his owne common wealth, he would haue the common people poore, and the rest not to haue too much: saying that wealth bred pride, and pride all mischiefes, when pouertie brought forth Science, and all good Arts, and Science all maner of earthly happinesse. Thus one mis-

chiefe draweth on an other, and dycing houses are the fountaines.

These wicked houses first nusleth our young gentlemen in pride, and acquainteth them with sundrie shifting companions, whereof one sort couseneth him at dice and cardes, an other sort consume him with lecherie, an other sort by brocadge bringeth him in debt, and out of credit, then awayteth couetousnesse and vsurie to sease vpon his liuing, and the vnciuill Sergeant vpon his libertie. To ruine is thus brought the gentleman, a great estate and strength of this Realme, principally by the frequenting of dicing houses.

Let vs searche deeper into this vlcer, there is more fowle matter behinde, we haue but yet spoken of the better sort of dicing houses, which are chiefelie for intertainement of Courtiers and other Gentlemen, which by reason of their attendaunce and businesse keepe no certaine houses. If ordinarie tables be tollerated for their necessitie, what warrant haue the ordinarie table-keepers within the heart of London, (which are commonly called dicing houses) for Citizens? In euerie Citie, Citizens haue houses of their owne, haue wife, children and families to care for: and sure the inconuenience cannot but be great, when a man leaueth his owne house, and the companie of his wife and familie, and dineth at a dicing house. In many well gouerned common wealths, Citizens by especiall Lawes were forbidden to eate and drinke out of their owne houses, vnlesse one neighbour inuited an other: but sufferance hath

Ordinaries for Citizens and the inconuenience.

brought this mischiefe to such a custome, that if there were many more Citizens ordinaries, they should not need to fawn vpon the inferior sort for want of companie of substantiall Citizens. But before we enter further into this mischiefe, ỳ condition of the keepers of these places is to be considered, for the most part the masters of these houses, in times past haue beene bankrouts, & what may be expected of men of their dispositions? mary a continuance of their facultie, to liue vpon the goods of other men. Hither repaire al ỳ close shifters, here many notorious cousinages are smothered, ỳ masters of these houses want no guests, for where carrion is, crowes will be plentie, and where money is stirring, cheters will not be idle. Youg citizens for ỳ most part depend vpon their credit, & therfore are loath that there should be an open testimony of their vnthriftines. Al the better for ỳ biting cheter. Close in a chamber a cogging knaue getteth more money in an houre, than many an honest man spendeth in a yere. And this one thing is much to be lamented, the vnthrifty citizens cõsume other mens goods, who perhaps laboured painfully to get thẽ (when gentlemen although they vndoe their posterite) spend but their own goods & lands. The eares of the magistrate are daily ful of the breaking of yong merchants, & here I lay before their eies the causes therof, euen these wicked ordinaries. They be places vnto which magistrates come not, & therefore the abuses vnknowen vnto them. But I think it a worke of much honesty to reueale them, and in the magistrate a worke of more iustice to reforme them, and

Keepers of these houses old bankrowtes.

vndoubtedly although this be true that I write, & the euils far more than I discouer, yet in discouering of the faults & faultie men, I find my conscience so free from their shiftes, as in writing my name to this booke, I presume, that no man (as faultie in that part of reprehension) will say,

Turpe est doctori, cum culpa redarguit ipsum.

But as one that meaneth not to complaine his losses, to ioyn my owne example with admonitiõ I cõstantly determine to crosse the streets where these vile houses are planted, to blesse me from the inticements of thẽ, which in very deed are many, & the more dangerous in that they please with a vain hope of gain. Insomuch on a time I heard a distemperate dicer solemly sweare, ỳ he faithfully beleeued, ỳ dice were first made of the bones of a witch, & cards of her skin, in which there hath euer sithence remained an inchantment, ỳ whosoeuer once taketh delight in either, he shall neuer haue power vtterly to leaue them, for quoth he, I a hundred times vowed to leaue both, yet haue not ỳ grace to forsake either. But for al his iudgement, if Socrates alterd his natural inclination of insolencie by philosophie: if the wise Vlisses could eate of the herb called Lotos, & yet by the pleasantnesse therof would not be inchanted to remaine in that countrie, when his companions & seruants (forgetting their natural land) coueted to remain still in ỳ region where that herb grewe, & but only by violence they could not be brought back again to their ships: if heathen men only by philosophie could master their dispositiõs, christians by praier & philosophy may ouercome an inticing mischiefe.

A dicers opinion of the first making of dice & cards.

But vnto this possibilitie of reformation, wise men are to giue light credence. Olde Iudge Chomley euermore aunswered naughtie liuers that sued for mercie, desiring him to regard the frailtie of young men, by the bolde and vnlawful actions of his owne youth, and by the testimonie of his grace, good fortune, and present authoritie, to conceiue hope of their amendement: O my friendes, quoth the Iudge, I tel you plainly, that of twentie that in those dayes were my companions, I onely escaped hanging: and it is very like, that some one of your fellowship is by Gods goodnesse reserued to be an honest man, but you are found offenders by the Lawe, and truely iustice (whose sentence I am sworne to pronounce) commaundeth me to commend your soules to Almightie God, and your bodies to the Gallowse. This notable Iudge in his aunswere was not short and sweete, but round and seuere. Great is the pitie that of twentie offenders there should but one become a good man. Howe high a worke were it then of charitie and mercie to preserue men from notable offences. Certainly farre greater, than to pardon offeders. For by the wildome of the first, vice shall be driuen to her shifts, when the mildenesse of the seconde many times breedeth presumption. If the good magistrates of this Citie, vsed the diligence of the forereported Censors of Rome, in short space the case would be altered, and in time custome would make men honest, which without discipline can haue no beginning. There is an olde prouerbe, The eye of th

Iudge Chomleys aunswere to theeues that sued for mercie.

the maſter, doth as much worke as the handes of the ſeruant. If the magiſtrats iurieide but theſe vile houſes by honeſt conſeruators, you ſhould finde the painefull trauels of capital Magiſtrats much eaſed, many mens liues ſhalbe ſaued, Gentlemen ſhall haue more lande, and Citizens greater ſtore of money: which mettall is the greateſt ſtrength of a Citie, for where mony is not ſcarce, traficke is plentie, which chiefly ſupporteth al Cities. And therfore in many wel gouerned cõmon wealthes, Citizens (to the ende they ſhould onely imploie their money in traficke) were forbidden to purchaſe lande, other than a garden for recreation. But to my purpoſe, theſe deuelliſh houſes are cauſes that merchants haue ſo much lande, and Gentlemen ſo litle vertue.

Citizens forbidden to purchaſe lande.

It is alreadie ſhowen, to what extremitie the better ſort of theſe houſes bring a great number of our flouriſhing Gentlemen. To what miſerie the ſeconde ſort (called ordinaries for Citizens) bring a great number of young merchauntes. Nowe remayneth the diſcouerie of the thirde ſort of theſe hauntes, which are placed in Allies, gardens, and other obſcure corners out of the common walks of the Magiſtrate. The dayly gueſts of theſe priuie houſes, are maiſterles men, needy ſhifters, theeues, cutpurſes, vnthriftie ſeruants, both ſeruing men, and prentiſes. Heere a man may picke out mates for all purpoſes, ſaue ſuch as are good. Heere a man may finde out Brauoes of Rome and Naples, who for a pottle of wine, will make no more conſcience to kill a man, than a Butcher a beaſt. heare cloſely lie good fellowes,

Ordinaries for maſterles mẽ, ſhifters, &c.

that with a good Northren Gelding, will gaine more by a halter, than an honest yeoman will with a teame of good horses. Heare are they, that will not let to deceaue their father, to robbe their brother, and fire their neighbours house for an aduauntage. These frannions will not sticke to spende frankely, although they haue neither landes nor goods by the dead, nor honestie by nature. But how will this hould out? fire will consume wood without maintenance, and pyot a weake purse without supply. The Gentlemen (for the most) haue landes to make money, and young marchants waies to get credite, but the most of these idle persons haue neither landes nor credite, nor will liue by an honest occupation: forsooth they haue yet handes to filch, heades to deceiue, and friendes to receiue: and by these helpes, shift meetely badly well. The other vpon currant allurance, perhaps get money, for twentie markes or twenty poundes in the hundred. But these that worst may hould the candle, they vpon their owne, or maisters apparell, brasse, pewter, sheetes, shirts, &c. finde Brokers, or tripperers, that for a shilling in the pounde, for euery moneth, will bouldly, for halfe the vallue take these paunes. Certainely it seemeth that London is sore charged with these makeshiftes, for that almost in euery streate and lane there dwelleth two or three of these pettie brokers, or cherishthecues. And I pray to God, that in Cheape side, and other principall streates, although gould, siluer, silkes and other costly merchandise be openly in the shops, that in many mens cofers there

Brokers called cherishthecues.

lie

lie not Cardinall Campeius ſumpter riches. Fiftie or ſixtie in the hundred is ſweete gaine, and a double paune taketh away all feare of the ſtatute. A Iuiſh vſurie, high time to bee rooted out of a Chriſtian gouernement. By ouer long ſufferaunce howe much London hath blemiſhed her auncient vertues, and indaungered her peace and proſperitie, is not to be recounted. In the time of King Henrie the third, the good citizens of London in one night ſlew fiue hundred Iewes for that a Iewe tooke of a Chriſtian a pennie in the ſhilling vſurie: and euer after got them baniſhed the Citie: if the like Iuſtice were done vpon Iuiſh Chriſtians, London would haue manie houſes emptie, and her Churches and Churchyeardes would be too ſcant to receiue dead carrions. Truely theſe Atheiſts deſerue worſe than Iewes, for they more ſharply execute the trade of Iewes. The Iewes ſpoile not one an other, but Chriſtians, whom they eſteeme as dogges, when theſe counterfets make no difference of perſons. The good Maieſtrates muſt ouerlooke this euill, or elſe the euill will ouerrule their proſperitie. It is a great miracle (but that God is mercifull) that this Citie is not alwaies greeuouſly afflicted with the plague, when ſacred is the authoritie that ſayth, The plague ſhall not departe the houſe of the ſwearer. I imagaine that diſers cure one poyſon with an other, who gape ſo wide to blaſpheme God, as they ſwallowe the Deuil into their bowels, vpon whom no plague but hell fire will faſten. How needefull a thing is it to looke vnto theſe places where this outrage

Learne this Cardinals name.

is done vnto God. Thinke you they may not be made instruments to nourish traiterous practises? The conspiracie of Madder and Barloe, was hatched in a tabling house, in the white fryers. Where is the currant of newes but in tabling houses? forraine explorers and faulse subiectes, there heare much matter intreated at counsell bordes. Where is a desperate Athiest like vnto harebraine Somervile so ready to be found, as in a tabeling house? Obstinate Papists that dare not liue in the countrey for feare of the statute, monethly shift their lodgings, and without suspition heere dayly receiue their dyet. Launce an olde feastred sore, and you are like to finde corruption more than of one humour. But admit they proue no baites for such purposes: they are the sinkes of the forereported mischiefes. The vndoing of many, and the honest gaine of no man. The Gentleman excuseth his repaire to them, because he keepeth no certaine house, and likewise alleadgeth conuersation of equals: but as he findeth no thrift in the first, so he is often deceiued in the seconde. A tabling house is like vnto a strumpet, who is readie to receiue euery mans money. And many times men of great worshippe, are bearded, and braued, with inferiours to some of their seruantes. The Gentleman of Naples is highly to be commended, for this honorable disposition, how meane so euer his liuing be, yet he will furnish his owne table: so he both auoydeth the controulement of superiours, and the checkemate of inferiours. Would our English gentlemen did the like, they would like very well of the change.

The honorable disposition of the Napolitan gentleman.

change. By this frugallitie, the Napolitane liueth Caueliero like with a 100. crownes a yeare, and our ryot maketh no showe of so much a moneth. But you will say they starue themselues: but did euer any see a man to die of hunger, where meate was to be sold, if he had gaie clothes to his backe, it seemeth he contenteth nature, which is plentie ynough, we for our glutonie are euerie where called English bellies. Very few of our gentlemē die old men by inordinate feading, our memorie, wit, and minde, which is immortall, is daylie dulled, weakened and almost slaine by surfets. Let vs excuse the matter as we please, wee receiue no better remedie by our excuse, than Mahomet had for the fawling sicknesse, by coloring his disease, in giuing out that his passion proceeded of the brightnesse of an Angell, which in those fittes reuealed heauenly matters vnto him. But if men will deceiue them selues by deluding others, they shall finde had I wist a bitter pill to digest. I neede shewe no other examples than the daylie falles of young Gentlemen that trust to the fortune of these intising dicing houses, where vertue is shut in the cole seller, and vice and all cosoning villanies, set in the chiefe places of the hall. And therefore happie is he, that is either aduised by good counsell, or warned by other mens harmes.

A care to continue ꝑ prosperitie of this famous Citie, will no doubt cause her Capitall magistrates shortly to looke into the behauiours of riotous Citizens, their vnthriftinesse consumeth more than their owne goods, and vndoeth many,

that trauaile painefully for their liuing. The example of monethly iustice, sufficeth to dismay the third sort of vnthriftie liuers. There are more executed from Newgate and the Marshalsies, than in three of the greatest Cities of Fraunce, and yet I truely say, that more offenders are fauourably quitted, and pardoned in London in one moneth, than in Paris in a whole yere, so exceeding great is the mercie of our most good Queene Elizabeth, the remembraunce whereof may not passe without zealous thankes vnto God for her thrise excellent Maiestie, least straungers condemne her naturall subiects of ingratitude, who to eternize this pretious vertue of mercie, rooted in the magnanimous heart of her excellencie, in commemoration thereof, haue written many learned bookes. Others haue raised disputationn, whether it be a vertue more holy, in her Maiestie, or daungerous for her true subiects: for feare least her clemencie extend vnto persons of the disposition of the frosen snake, which the pitifull husoandman cherished by the fire, vntill she offered to sting his children: and truely whether presumption or necessitie were the cause, I leaue to iudge: but I craue Gods wrath as iustice, if I speake not the trueth: In Rome, euen in that Rome, where the Pope and her woorst enemie raigneth, among English fugitiues, not woorthie of the benefite of her good subiects, plentie, peace and prosperitie. There was (which with mine owne eares I heard) that wished imprisonment in the Fleete at the Queenes mercie, rather than libertie in Rome. It is apparant that her

The exceeding mercie of ỹ Queenes Maiestie eternized by straungers.

Highnesse

Highnesse mildenes exceedeth, and it seemeth that the Popes bountie is not verie plentiful, saue vnto such, as rather carrie sedition than zeale in their countenance. When such as cannot be contented to be good subiects, affie more in her clemencie (if shame held thē not backe) than in the Popes holinesse, for all his golden showes. In my booke entituled, The blessings of Peace, this digression shall be liuely set foorth. In the meane space & many happy yeres after, I humbly beseech Almightie God to forget our vnworthinesse, by remembrance of her worthinesse, that she may in al felicitie still raigne among vs as the image of his glorie, and the comfort of all true Christians. Amen.

Againe to my purpose: Though there cannot be too much good spoken of her Maiesties gratious & sweet mercie, yet seueritie may no wayes be termed cruelties, so that no more than Lawe be ministred to notable malefactors. London is so plentifull of notorious couseners, cheters, and dishonest liuers, and withall so blemished with heynous cousenages and deceites, as a young man, vnlesse he haue an olde mans experience, can hardly auoide their snares.

Many newe kinde of shiftes, which none but the Deuill could inuent, and verie Atheistes execute, by the wisedome of graue Maiestrates haue beene spyed foorth: wherein reuerent personages were in danger of dishonour, and innocentes in hazarde of death. It is a matter of fresh memorie. The publicke mischiefe that of late yeares was hatched in these wicked houses, and growen to the great losse, hinderance, and halfe vndoing of more than two hundred Gentlemen, honest citizens and yeomen, yet God which is iust, hath rewarded many of the deceiuers

uers according to their euill deseruings.

No man was euer assaulted with a more daungerous strategeme of colonage than my selfe, with which my life & liuing was hardly beset. No man hath more cause to thanke God for a free deliuery than my selfe, nor anie man euer sawe, more suddaine vengeance inflicted vpon his aduersaries, than I my selfe of mine: as liuely appeareth in the ende of my booke intituled The rocke of regarde, imprinted many yeares past.

And although to cure the extremitie I then fared as a man sore scalded with fire, which in hope of ease leapeth into colde water, which presently stripeth off his skin. So I that had experience of strangers huge deceite, thought that the pleasing perswasion of neare friendes, would turne to a comfortable remedie, but I finde the olde Lardes song true: There is no trust in faire words, nor assurance in natures obligations. But after three yeares & more of costly suite my greeuous oppression (God be therfore prayed) hath pearsed the inclining eares, of the right Honorable, and Gracious Iudge, the L. Chauncelor of Englande: by whose wisedom & graue iudgement, I constantly beleeue, to be releued & released of the toile of Law: vpon whose commaundement, with all humilitie, reuerence and dutie I attend, beseeching Almighty God to preserue the blessed estate of ỳ Queenes most excellent maiestie here vpon earth, the lieuetenant of his diuine graces: the right honorable Lordes of the priuie Counsell, the true images of wisedome: and all other Capitall and good Magistrates, the strong pillers of this happie gouernement. And to the friendly readers of this booke, I wish the benefit of my trauels, and to the reprehenders amendment of life.

FINIS.

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